# STARS STRIPES.

Army's 'Mr. Outside.' star during Cadets' '40s hevday, dies

Pa. university offers troops' survivors 4-vear scholarships

Lee Ann Womack returns to her country roots

Volume 63. No. 326 © SS 2005

FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 2005

# Report faults troops for detainee abuse

No policy condoned or directed torture, admiral tells Senate Page 11



#### STARS STRIPES. COMING



Scene on Sunday

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#### ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

#### **States**

Flight 93 memorial: A memorial honoring the 40 people who died when hijacked Flight 93 crashed in a Pennsylvania field during the Sept. 11, 2001, ter-rorist attacks will cost \$30 million, ac-

cording to a study. The \$30 million primarily will be used to build the memorial, but the money also will go toward roads, parking lots and a visitor's

A capital campaign will be organized to raise donations, said Joanne M. Hanley, superintendent of the proposed memorial

A national competition to design the me-morial yielded five finalists who have until June 15 to submit more detailed plans for the crash site near Shanksville, about 65 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. A panel will select a winning design by Sept. 11.

Brain-dead inmate: An inmate who was left brain-dead after being shot with a rubber bullet by a prison guard died from inju-ries from the projectile, according to an autopsy report released Wednesday.

Daniel D. Provencio, 28, was shot in the head with the supposedly non-lethal projectile Jan. 16 during an altercation at State Prison. He was taken to Bakersfield's Mercy Hospital, where he remained in a coma and was hooked to a ventilator for weeks before he died Friday.

ste dumping: A bus driver for the Dave Matthews Band pleaded guilty Wednesday to charges stemming from the dumping of 800 pounds of human waste from his vehicle's septic tank onto a sightseeing boat on the Chicago River.

Stefan Wohl was sentenced to 18 months probation and 150 hours of community service, said Tom Stanton, a spokesman for the Cook County state's attorney's office. He also was fined the maximum of \$10,000, which will be paid to Friends of the Chicago River, a conservation group Wohl, 42, of Selma, Texas, was charged with reckless conduct and discharging contaminates to cause water pollution

#### World

France pedophilia-ring trial: A lead suspect in a massive pedophilia trial in Angers, France, who is accused of having sexually abused his grandchildren coldly told the court Thursday: "My kids, I don't love

The trial of 66 people accused of involve-ment in the rape, sexual abuse and forced prostitution of children, including some too young to walk, moved into a new phase with the grandfather and other suspects facing detailed questions about their background and personal histories

The grandfather, who was previously convicted of raping his son, faces life imprisonment on charges of rape and sexual abuse of

Pakistan acknowledges nuke scientist: After years of denials. Pakistan admitted on Thursday that its top nuclear scientist sold centrifuges to Iran, though it stuck by its claim it knew nothing of his activities, and insisted he will not be turned over to another country for prosecution.

The admission by the nation's informa-tion minister was the first time since the



no family arrests: Arnold Squitieri, center, accused underboss of the Gambino crime family, is led away Wednesday by federal agents in New York. Squitieri, the acting boss of the family, and at least 30 other mob figures were arrested after an undercover FBI agent posing as a hit man infiltrated the Mafia with an act so convincing he was considered for membership, authorities said. Also facing racketeering charges is reputed underboss Anthony "The Genius" Megale. Prosecutors said Squitieri, Megale and other defendants made millions of dollars through extortion, loansharking, illegal gambling and other crimes during the past decade.

world's atomic energy watchdog launched an investigation into Abdul Qadeer Khan's nuclear network that an Iranian or Paki-stani official has acknowledged publically that he sold Tehran centrifuges, a crucial component needed to enrich the uranium that can be used in nuclear warheads.

Pakistan is a key ally in the war on terror. American officials acknowledge privately, however, that Washington is frustrated by Islamabad's refusal to allow Khan to be directly questioned by American agents.

Hong Kong leader: Hong Kong's belea-guered leader said Thursday he's quitting



because of failing health — not pressure from his bosses in Beijing — as the global financial capital moved into a new political era that could bring power mands for full democracy and meddling by China. Tung Chee-hwa's res-

ignation ended a political guessing game that dragged on for nearly two weeks in the former British colony that

returned to Chinese rule eight years ago. Pope's health: Pope John Paul II will ex-

tend his hospital stay "a few more days" but still plans to return to the Vatican in time for the start of Holy Week that begins on Palm Sunday on March 20, the pontiff's spokesman said Thursday.

No date had been given for the frail pope's return, but the announcement anneared to suggest there may have been a plan to release him earlier that was dropped to give him more time to regain his strength. At the hospital he is receiving only his closest aides, while back at the Vatican he might be tempted to resume regular audiences with visiting bishops and foreign offi-

Serbia war crimes: A former chief of police under Bosnia's wartime leader Radovan Karadzic was to surrender to the U.N. war crimes court at The Hague Netherlands, the government in Belgrade said

Thursday.
Mico Stanisic, who served as interior minister in the Bosnian Serb breakaway state led by Karadzic during the 1992-95 war, has decided to give himself up voluntarily after talks with government officials in Belgrade,

a press release from the Cabinet said. Recent Bosnian media reports claimed Stanisic had been indicted by The Hague tribunal and was living freely in Belgrade.

Nepal civil liberties: Nepal's King Gyanendra could soon restore some of the civil liberties he suspended after seizing power last month, the foreign minister said Thursday, a day after the government released several political detainees and promised to restore mobile phone services.

"Let me assure you that the temporary suspension of the rights of our citizens will be revoked sooner [rather] than later," For-eign Minister Ramesh Nath Pandev told some foreign diplomats in the capital, Kat-

Pandev did not elaborate, but the diplomats interpreted his comments as an indication that the new royal government which dissolved parliament and declared a state of emergency on Feb. 1 — was seeking reconciliation with political parties.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

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# **Troops in Europe affected by missing bank data**

By RON JENSEN Stars and Strine:

Government travel card information for thousands of cardholders in Europe is included in the missing shipment of backup computer tapes of accounts lost by the Bank of America, military officials say.

More than 7,000 soldiers in U.S. Army Europe and more than 13,000 airmen in U.S. Air Forces in Europe are among the 1.1 million Department of Defense Bank of America government travel cardholders whose data is on the missing tapes.

The U.S. Navy has not broken down the numbers by theater, but a news release from the service reports 242,000 sailors and 56,000 Marines among those with missing data

No problems have been reported yet, officials said Thursday, although cardholders are being advised to scrutinize their accounts for any suspicious activity.

#### Thousands of Bank of America cardholders are being notified, but no problems reported

In a telephone interview, Lt. Col. Lilly Lopez, USAFE chief of financial services. said, "Each base finance office is notifying each individual."

Lilly provided a breakdown of bases as follows: RAF Mildenhall and Lakenheath, England, 3,649; Aviano Air Base, Italy, 2,047; Ramstein Air Base, Germany, 3,247; Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany, 1,590; Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, 625; Lajes Field, Azores, 1,149: Naval Air Station Keflavik. Iceland, 328; and the 38th Combat Support Squadron, which administers geographicalseparated units throughout Europe, 1.296

Col. Karen Dyson, commander of the 266th Finance Command at Schwetzingen. Germany, said 7,590 of the 28,036 accounts under her command's purview are affect-

This does not include, she said, soldiers with the Army's Installation Management Agency-Europe or 5th Signal Command. Those cards are managed by the individual headquarters. A IMA representative said it had 1 087 accounts affected. Numbers for the signal command were not available by press time.

Dyson said unit liaisons for the program also are contacting individuals in the wake of letters mailed to each affected cardholder by the Bank of America.

"We are receiving feedback from those cardholders that they have received those

(Bank of America) letters," Dyson said in a telephone interview with Stars and Stripes.

The Bank of America sent letters in late February to affected cardholders notifying them their account information was included in a shipment lost in December. Notification was delayed until approved by law enforcement officials conducting the investigation, the letter said

A telephone number has been dedicated for anyone with questions or concerns. That number is 800-493-844, but is not toll-free from overseas.

Cardholders are being advised to notify the Bank of America if any suspicious activity shows up on a card statement. The letter from the bank promises scrutiny by

Bank of America, too, of affected accounts. Cardholders will not be liable for any unauthorized use of their card, the letter said.

E-mail Ron Jensen at: iensenr@mail.estrines.osd.mil

## 'Smart' tails add brains to bombs for Aviano F-16s

#### GPS-guided munitions are smaller, lighter, cause less damage

By Russ Rizzo Stars and Stripes

AVIANO AIR BASE Italy -When the 510th Fighter Squadron leaves for Iraq in May, the pilots' F-16s will be equipped with one of the newest weapons avail-

able to the Air Force A new 500-pound satellite-guided bomb, called the Guided Bomb Unit-38, is the smaller version of its 2.000-pound brother, GBU-31, that was used throughout Operation Iraqi Freedom.

While the larger bomb was successful in destroying large targets such as Saddam Hussein's main palace in Baghdad, the GBU-38 allows pilots to take out smaller targets with less risk of collateral damage or civilian casualties. Air Force weapons experts say.

"You can use a 2,000-pound bomb to take out a tank, but it's not good to," said Senior Master Sgt. Steven Laser, superintendent of weapons standardization with the 31st Maintenance Group at Aviano

The GBU-38 holds 80 percent less explosive than the GBU-31, allowing the Air Force more flexibility in selecting targets during urban combat.

"We could drop in closer prox-

imity to things that we didn't want to blow up," said Maj. John Wilbourne, of the 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, where the bomb

scored high marks in recent tests. The bombs use global position-

ing satellite tech nology called 44 We could drop Joint Direct Attack Munition  $in\ closer$ or JDAM - to find their targets proximity to To make these things that we "smart bombs," the military atdidn't want to taches a new tail to "dumb bombs' blow up. 77 that have been

Mai. John Wilbourne 85th Test and Evaluation Squadron at Eglin Air Force Base in Florida

to So add a \$18,000 high-tech tail to a Vietnam-era MK 82 bomb. and you've got a GBU-38.

reads

used for decades.

Inside the tail, a

GPS coordinates

and adjusts the

rudders

move toward the target

computer

The bombs can be programmed with target coordinates before a flight or by pilots in the air.

The GPS-guided bombs are alternatives to laser-guided bombs.

which often could not be used in cloudy, foggy or rainy conditions, The biggest advantage of the

new bombs for pilots is that "you can dron them and forget about them," Laser said. No longer will pilots, or soldiers on the ground, have to keep a laser locked on a target until the ex-

plosion, Laser said. Or wait for clouds to clear before a strike. "If you go all-GPS, you can go on any mission no matter

weather," Laser said An Alahama National Guard unit was the first to use the GBU-38 on Sent 12, when F-16 Fal-

cons dropped two of the 500-pound bombs on a two-story building in Fallujah, Iraq, where terrorists were thought to be meeting, according to Central Air Forces-Forward. Since then, 84 of the 500-pound bombs have been dropped in Iraq, according to CENTAF

And, in February, the 494th Fighter Squadron out of RAF Lakenheath, England, was the first to drop one in combat from an



Staff Sgt. Michael Ward, right, and Airman 1st Class Patrick Wolf, of the 555th Fighter Squadron at Aviano Air Base, Italy, load a 2.000-pound laser-guided bomb onto an F-16 fighter let Thursday morning. Satellite-guided bombs are replacing this type of bomb, along with the smaller, 500-pound version.

F-15E Strike Eagle, said Capt. Joseph Siberski, a weapons officer with the squadron.

The Navy dropped its first GBU-38 weeks later, when F-117A Nighthawks unloaded two of them on another building in Iraq where terrorists were thought to be meeting, according to Naval Air Systems Command. Members of the 555th Fighter

Squadron from Aviano spent the

past month learning to load and drop the GBU-38 with Wilbourne's squadron at Eglin Air Force Base.

Pilots in the 510th Fighter Squadron won't have the benefit of practice, Laser said. But they should have little trouble, he said, since the bombs work similar to the larger version.

"Just with less of a bang," Laser said.

F-mail Russ Rizzo at:

To smarten a "dumb bomb." the military attaches a tail. like the one above on a GBU-31, which contains a computer that reads global positioning satellite coordinates to find its target. The kit costs about \$18,000

# **Construction boom under way at Spangdahlem**

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER Stars and Stripes

SPANGDAHLEM AIR BASE, Germany — Construction is a part of life at this U.S. Air Force

base in rural western Germany. So much so that contractors have their own gate on base to minimize traffic in and out of the facility.

U.S., German and local governments are spending more than \$264 million to expand and improve the base to handle a portion of the air traffic once Rhein-Main Air Base closes by the end of the

year.

The plethora of new projects has created a few headaches for airmen and their families, but many understand that the base will be bigger and better as soon as the work is done.

"When I first got here, I looked around and I went, Holy smokes, there is just all kinds of construction everywhere," said Col. Dave Goldfein, commander of the Sznd Fighter Wing, the base's host unit. "I was really concerned at first, because after a while that can be fatiguing on a base. And what was interesting was when I went to talk to the airmen, they knew what the end state was going to be... There's a lot of ex-

citement about what's going on."

The latest in a long line of new projects is a new entrance and visitor center that will serve as a shining new gateway to a base in

the midst of a major makeover. Military officials, local politicians and members of the S2nd Fighter Wing celebrated the opening of the new gate and visitors center on Thursday. The project, part of a \$6.2 million expansion of the northwest section of Spandallem, is a key piece of a plan to consolidate surrounding annexes onto the main base.

44 There's a lot of

excitement

about what's

going on.

Col. Dave Goldfein

Commander,

52nd Fighter Wing

Spangdahlem is home to between 3,000 and 3,500 American servicemembers.

members. Once Rhein-Main clos-

es, U.S. military cargo and passenger planes will have to use Ramstein Air Base and Spangdahlem. To

prepare for the influx of planes, more money is being poured into expanding the base to expand the runway, increase lodging, housing and other facilities.

There also are plans to build a new base exchange, fitness center, fire station and shoppette, but the money has not been approved yet, said Udo Sturmer, the engineering flight chief for the 52nd Civil Engineer Squadron.

E-mail Scott Schonauer at:





Above: The new gate and visitor center at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany are part of a \$6.2 million expansion project, which is a key piece of a plan to consolidate surrounding annexes onto the main base.

Left: U.S. Air Force airmen hold the U.S. and German flags during a gate opening ceremony on Thursday at Spangdahlem Air Base in Germany.

PHOTOS BY SCOTT SCHONAUER Stars and Stripes

#### 'Model' students from Mannheim, Lakenheath heading for Dublin

BY STEVE MRAZ

Stars and Stripes

A future U.S. ambassador to the United Nations could be in a group of 29 Department of Defense Dependents Schools students traveling to Dublin, Ireland, later this month to participate in an international Model United Nations conference.

Students from Lakenheath and Mannheim high schols will represent other countries, draft resolutions and lobby their proposals during the March 21-24 event that will play host to 700 students from around the world.

The conference marks the first time the schools have traveled to Dublin for the gathering, said Patricia Schlachter, a Mannheim High School social studies teacher. "This will prepare the students for real life because they are going to have to deal with people who have different opinions," she said. "But just as important, they should come to understand that the need to stand up for what your country believes in is necessar."

In working with students from as far away as India and Kuwait at the conference, Heidi McLaren, a 16-year-old senior at Lakenheath High School, hopes to offer international students an al-

ternative to common stereotypes about Americans.
"By being a good representative and nice and caring, we can help people see that not all Americans turn a blind eye to the world," she said.
Twelve students from Heidelberg High School

Twelve students from Heidelberg High School are traveling to Beijing, China, to participate in a similar event this month.

E-mail Steve Mraz at: mrazs@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Meyers, a 1972 graduate of the Naval Academy, was chief of staff for Task Force 63 between December 1999 and the time of his death, which Navy officials said at the time was most likely from natural causes.

#### Navy building named to honor captain NAPLES. Italy — The new headquarters building

for the Naval Forces Europe and 6th Fleet has been renamed in honor of a Naples-based Navy captain who worked at the facility and died in his office in January 2004.

The Capt. John E. Meyers building was dedicated at the Naval Support Activity Naples Capodichino base Thursday afternoon. Meyers' wife, Petra, and other members of his family joined with Navy Region Europe commander Rear Adm. Stanley Bozin to unveil the new name.

The building houses staff from the joint command headquarters, plus personnel from other commands, including Submarine Group Eight and Military Sealift Command Europe.

The windowless building had previously been called the C4I building, which stands for command, control, computers, communications and intelligence.

#### Airmen will compete to be USAFE Idol

RAF MILDENHALL, England — Airmen will have a chance to show off their singing talents when the USAFE Idol talent show is held at 7 p.m. Friday at the base theater. Competitors will sing one song accompanied by the Touch 'n' Go Band from the U.S. Air Forces in Europe

Winners of the competition, which is based on a reality talent show on American television known as "American Idol," will be eligible to compete for the title of USAFE Idol at Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

From staff reports

# Pentagon blames e-mail on 'spoofing'

BY JON R. ANDERSON

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Whoops, said the Pentagon, disregard that press release we just sent out from the Islamic civil liberties group.

Falling victim either to hackers or automated e-mail trawlers, the Pentagon's American Forces Press Service inadvertently distributed a press release Wednesday from the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

"E-mail subscribers of the American Forces Press Service today received a message, entitled "ISLAM-INFONET: "Hardball" Host Withdraws From Controversial FL Event, from a group not affiliated with the Department of Defense," real shortly after the press re-lease was distributed to thousands of subscribers around the world

"A processing error resulted in the unintentional distribution of that message," the note explained.

"We have a number of people who try to spoof the system," said an official with the AFPS. "We literally get a hundred of these a

Spoofing is akin to impersonating — sending an e-mail out pretending to be from a known

He explained that hackers, as well as automated marketing computers, routinely try to break through security measures in place to prevent such abuse. Pentagon Internet guards must sift through each of them separating out hacks from actual official releases before the "send" button is hit.

"In this case," he said, "we had just migrated to a new computer system and someone hit the wrong command."

A spokesman for CAIR, a Washington-based Muslim advocacy group, said it had nothing to do with the infiltration.

"It wasn't us," said Ibrahim Hooper. "We didn't even know there was such a list."

Regardless, the Pentagon says it has boosted security.

"AFPS has taken steps to guard against a recurrence," reads the blaster, "and sincerely apologizes

for the inconvenience."

E-mail Jon Anderson at:

jon.anderson@stripes.osd.mi

# **Gen.: Weather kept Marines from recruiting**

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON - While neither rain, nor snow, nor dark of night keeps the postman away, had weather annarently kent Marine Corns recruiters from their and pointments and routes, said a Marine gen-

The Corps has missed recruiting goals two months running. "It's easy to say it's the war in Iraq, but I'm not so sure," Gen. Jan. C. Huly, deputy commandant for plans, policies and operations, told a gathering of defense writers.

A harsh winter kept potential recruits indoors, and thus recruiters from signing them up.



about life beyond high school, Huly said. But the Corps made a mistake in letting Marines eligible to become recruiters deploy to combat zones

the calendar year is

the hardest time to

lure students who are

just beginning to think

instead of the streets of America, said Huly, who has served as the deputy commanding general for the Marine Corns Recruiting Command

"We didn't have as many recruiters on the streets as we wanted."

The Corps missed its February goal by 192 recruits, and January's goal by 84; the first time goals were missed in 10 years. "Let's just keep in context just how big this alleged iceberg is out there.

The service is adding recruiters over the next two years

Additionally, the Corps is tasked with boosting its end-strength by 3,000 this fiscal year for a total of 178,000 Marines.

Recruiters will not only be looking for the basic infantryman, but for Marines with an aptitude for languages, Huly said. The Army also missed its February re-

cruiting goals. Army leaders have said that the failure is linked in part to public concern over the

wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, fueled by the near-daily reminders of American casu-

To date, 1,664 U.S. troops have died in Iraq and Afghanistan, and more than 10,000 have been wounded.

"People are watching the news," Doug Smith, a spokesman for U.S. Army Recruiting Command at Fort Knox, Kv., said last week. "They know the risks of military service in today's environment.

And the Pentagon's top spokesman, Lawrence Di Rita, said in early March that with a nation at war, parents are using their influence over their children to steer decisions away from military service.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@mail.estripes.osd.mil

## WWII vet struggles to get VA benefits

By NICHOLAS K. GERANIOS The Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. - Vernon Baker battled Nazis, then racism in his own country to win the Medal of Honor, Now, at 85, he's battling red tape.

Baker, the only living black Medal of Honor winner from World War II, needed emergency surgery in September to remove a hasehall-sized malignant tumor from his brain.

Healthy for much of his life, the Idaho resident had overlooked the need to enroll for Veterans Affairs and Medicare benefits. When his medical bills arrived. Baker and his wife were surprised to learn the government did not intend to help pay them.

Patients must enroll with the Veterans Administration to rebenefits,

then he can't

aet medical

coverage, No

one should

have to go

through that.

costs incurred before their enrollment, said Rox-Sisemore, spokeswoman for the VA. And Medicare

ceive

coverage kicks in automatically when a person retire ment age, coverage to pay doc-tors' bills also requires enroll-ment said Peter Ashkenaz, a Medi-

care spokesman.

"It kind of makes me feel angry," Baker said in a telephone interview from his home in St. Maries, a town of 2,400 in the forested Idaho Panhandle, about 70 miles southeast of Spokane.

"I'm not able to take care of myself and it hurts me

With the help of Idaho politicians, Baker has started receiv-



World War II veteran Vernon Baker, 85 - with his wife, Heidi - is battling the U.S. government for medical care for a brain tumor. With the help of Idaho politicians. Baker, a Medal of Honor recipient, has started receiving some Veterans Administration and Medicare benefits.

ing some VA and Medicare benefits. And residents of St. Maries are organizing a fund-raiser to for thousands of dollars in medical bills he already owes.

"Someone held up as a hero all over the world, then he can't get medical coverage. No one should

have to go through and cannot be re-imbursed for Marilyn Fletcher, who is organiz-ing the March 19 as a hero all fund-raiser. over the world

Baker earned the Medal of Honor citation for his courage and leadership in the

spring of 1944. Army Lt. Baker had been sent to Italy with the all-black 92nd Infantry. On April 5. Baker and his men

Marilyn Fletcher were behind enemy lines in the battle for Castle Aghinolfi near Viareggio, accord-

ing to Army records. Their white commanding officer ran when the fighting started. ostensibly to seek reinforcements who never arrived, Baker wrote in his book, "Lasting Valor."

With German fire decimating the Americans, Baker took charge, moving from one machine gun nest to another, killing the enemy soldiers inside. Then he

covered the evacuation of his wounded comrades by taking an exposed position and drawing the enemy's fire, according to Army records.

The next night, Baker voluntarily led an advance on the castle through enemy mine fields and heavy fire

In all, Baker and his platoon killed 26 Germans, destroyed six machine gun nests, two observer posts and four dugouts. Their heroism enabled the Allies to take the castle shortly thereafter. Baker was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, making him the most decorated black soldier in the Mediterranean Theater.

What he didn't know was that his Medal of Honor nomination had been blocked by a military establishment that did not want to give the nation's highest honor to blacks. In 1993, Army officials contracted Shaw University in Raleigh, N.C., to learn if any black soldiers had been improperly de-nied the Medal of Honor. The university recommended 10 soldiers. From that list. Pentagon officials picked seven.

Baker was the only recipient still living and received his award from President Clinton in 1997. Baker stayed in the Army after the war and retired to St. Maries in 1968. Baker is trying not to let the financial woes get him down.

"I'm hanging in there," he said. "Today I feel pretty good."

## Remains of Texas GI returning home after missing for 60 years

BY BILL HANNA Knight Ridder Newspapers

FORT WORTH, Texas - A shaving brush

A piece of a comb Part of a boot

A worn set of dog tags. These clues helped unearth a 60-year-old mystery about the

whereabouts of Pfc. Preston "Pug" Harris. In November 1944,

the 23-year-old soldier from Greenville Texas, was part of the 405th Infantry Regiment, 102nd Infantry Division that was fighting along the heavily fortified Siegfried Line near the German-Netherlands bor-

regiment's records state that Harris was killed Nov. 22, 1944, near Beeck, Germany. He was eight

days short of his 24th birthday. Harris was officially listed as killed in action, but the location of his body was unknown. The family was told that he might have been buried in an unmarked grave at a military cemetery in

the Netherlands. His family knew little else.

"One of my other uncles wrote one of the men in Preston's unit who said they were in a field when an 88 [mm] round came in on him and the other guy, and that was it," said Harris' nephew, Knighton Hudson, 50, of Wylie in North Teyas

The first sten toward solving the mystery occurred in June 2003 when a German company that was removing unexploded ordnance from the battlefield uncovered human remains in an unmarked grave.

The personal items found in the grave led officials to believe they had discovered a U.S. soldier's remains. The remains were transferred to the Hurtgen War Ceme-

tery and later to the U.S. Army Mortuary Affairs Activity in Landstuhl, Germany.

POW/MIA Accounting Command at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii came to the Reeck area in June, excavated the site and took possession of the remains, Hudson

After examining dental and medical records, the investigators were able to identify

Harris A military representative visited Harris' family in February and returned some of the personal items that had been recovered.

Bob Mason, general manager of Peters Funeral Home in Greenville, said his staff did a double take when they first learned the date of Harris' death.

Pfc. Preston Harris "It was a very interesting thing when we

started talking about a death that occurred on Nov 22 1944 Mason said.

Harris' military funeral is scheduled for March 12 in Green ville. But the service won't include a ceremonial rifle volley. "My grandmother didn't want that," Hudson said. "She felt like he already had enough shooting over there

Harris was the youngest of 10 children. The only surviving family member is his 89-year-old sister, Maple Harris Hudson. Knighton Hudson said his mother is still coming to terms with the discovof her brother's remains. "She was kind of in shock," Knighton Hudson said

"She basically figured for the last 60 years that he was buried somewhere over there and then all of the sudden, she finds out he's been found.

"I think more than anything ne was heartened that she was able to fulfill her mother's wishes to bring him home. I really don't think it's hit her vet.







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# Pa. university offers 4-year scholarships to troops' survivors

BY SANDRA JONTZ Stars and Strines

WASHINGTON — U.S. Rep. Curt Weldon, R-Pa., hopes the actions of one university "will embarrass" other institutions of higher learning into stepping up to support dependents of active-duty forces.

"I hope this will embarrass other schools who talk the good game of supporting our troops but are not stepping up to the plate the way Widener is," Weldon said

Widener University will offer undergraduate scholarships of up to \$100,000 for four years for students of troops killed in action in Iraq and Afghanistan, school President James Harris announced Tuesday. The U.S. death toll from the two operations is more than

Until 1972, the 184-year-old university in suburban Philadelphia had been a military academy. Today it maintains a strong ROTC program and offers undergrad programs in nursing, engineering, business, education, hotel and restaurant manage-ment, and liberal arts with a strong biology program, Harris said. Approximately 6,300 students attend Widener.

An annual \$25,000 payout would cover the \$21,900 tuition and leave money for books and such items. It would not cover room and board. The university will provide up to 16 scholarships at a time, Harris said.

While Widener's program is the only one to offer a full four-year scholarship, about 500 of the nation's 3,300 institutions of higher learning have ap-

#### Back to school

The Department of Veterans Affairs offers an educational and training benefit to spouses and children of U.S. active-duty military personnel killed or permanently and totally disabled. The benefit applies to families of Guard and Reserve personnel on active-duty sta-

The Survivors' and Dependent's Edu-cational Assistance Program pays 8803 a month for 48 months to spouses and dependent children to pay for educa-tion at VA-approved universities, colleg-sald Dennis Douglass, the VA's deputy furctor of education and benefits. The benefit is available for spouses to 10 years after the military mem-up to 10 years after the military mem-sage of 26 for dependent children, he said.

said.
For additional information visit the Web at: www.gibill.va.gov/education/ C3Spam.htm, contact your local VA re-gional Office, or call (888) 442-4551. - Stars and Stripes

proached the Pentagon seeking suggestions on programs that would benefit GIs and their families, said Gary Woods, director of Educational Opportunities at the Pentagon's office of Personnel and Readiness.

Widener's board of trustees voted unanimously to continue the program for several decades, especially because most children of troops killed today are young. University officials anticipate the bulk of applicants to come in 10 to 12 years, Harris said.

The amount of scholarships could change in the future to re-flect inflation or rising tuition costs, he said. The board also is seeking to raise money to offer additional scholarships, said trustee and retired Army Gen. John Tilel-li Jr., a 1963 academy graduate.

#### Missile defense program to review its equipment

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The general in charge of the Pentagon's faltering effort to develop a system for defending the United States against ballistic missile attack said Wednesday that he has ordered a thorough review of all ground equipment used in testing and appointed a senior Navy officer to oversee future test prepara-

The moves by Air Force Lt Gen. Henry "Trey" Obering III follow failed attempts in December and February to launch interceptor rockets in tests of the fledgling system. Both failures have been blamed on what defense officials say were minor glitches flawed computer software code in December and a faulty silo retracting arm in February.

The testing setbacks have prov-en especially disappointing for

the Pentagon, which has been hoping to get into a rhythm of regular flight trials after a two-year hia-tus in such experiments. The new tests are particularly important because they mark the first attempted flights of the system's in-terceptor missile, which is de-signed to fly into space and re-lease a "kill vehicle" that steers into enemy warheads

Obering said said the review of all ground testing equipment is patterned after an intense study of the history of all interceptor components conducted last year. He also has asked a team of independent experts to look "at our complete test process on the ground" for signs of weakness, he said. And he has created a new post — director of mission readi-ness — to manage future test preparations.

The new post will be filled by Rear Adm. Kathleen Paige.

# **Operation Rock Hammer strikes Buhriz**



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, 42nd Infantry Division enter a village near Buhriz, Iraq, on Tuesday while searching for weapons, explosives and insurgents during Operation Rock Hamm

# Soldiers search Iraqi town for insurgents, weapons

44 Psuchological

warfare: it

might make a

guy think

twice about

picking up his

AK-47.77

Capt. Rvan Howell

By CHARLIE COON Stars and Stripes

- The mission starts with a bang A handful of artillery explosions crack through the pre-dawn sky, waking up the sleeping community. Fighter jets streak overhead, leaving a trail of sonic booms in their wake

"Psychological warfare; it might make a guy think twice about picking up his AK-47," said Capt. Ryan Howell of St. Louis, commander of Battery A, 1st

Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment, part of the 42nd Infantry Division's Task Force Liberty. Operation Rock Hammer has begun: Now 500 troops — 375 American and 125 Iraqi soldiers — will blitz through Buhriz to seize illegal weapons, explo-

sives and insurgents; they're especially on the lookout for two men suspected of leading election day attacks against polling stations

Buhriz's 60,000 residents live in a place that offers strange mixes of primitive living and technological wonders, often under the same roof A house might not have flush toilets but it does have a satellite dish on its

For soldiers with vehicles, Buhriz can be difficult to enter since there are only two ways in and out, a road on either side of town But insurgents who know the ter-

rain have many places to hide in the maze of homes and shops. Escape routes run through the acres of surrounding palm

and date groves and across the Diyala River "I'm pretty excited that we're actually going out and doing something," said Spc. Robert Atchison of Gainesville, Fla. "We're going after the guys who are causing all the havoc."

Special operation soldiers and a group of select Iraqis led the way into town, targeting seven sites four residents and three shops — suspected of harboring the top suspects and their cohorts.

For their role, the soldiers of Battery A look for weapons caches and fleeing suspects on the scores of goat trails running like a maze through the woods

"There's a whole network of trails back here, and they're all well-worn," said Pfc. Keith Peacock of Las Vegas after one foray into the brush

Searching the surrounding areas and city represents a gray area in the current state of security af-

fairs. Howell said. It is too insecure for normal nolice activity (if a normal police force existed). But in trying to win the peace, rolling tanks through town isn't the answer.

isn't the answer.
"Clearing operations don't always yield a lot,"
Howell said. "Sometimes you can make more enemies than you do friends. It also let's people in the
neighborhood know — 'don't harbor these guys.' eighborhood know — 'don't harbor these guys.'
"The police couldn't do this back in the States, but

until police stations here stop getting mortared . Residents who can't fix anything damaged during a search, Howell said, can bring evidence of the damage along with three renair estimates to the Civil Military Operations Office in nearby Baqouba. If they were innocent of wrongdoing, the victims can be reimbursed cash for the damage.

For all the firepower, it turned out very little was needed. There were no casualties, Howell said, either military or civilian.
Of the 11 detainees, Howell said.

six tested positive for traces of explosive compounds on their hands. Nei-ther Saddam Septi nor Dawoud Karim Hanun were captured.

The four hot spots detected by the heliconter turned out to be nothing. The final haul of weaponry was

fairly modest. Several AK-47 automatic rifles with ammunition were found, as well as a homemade rocket launcher, two rocket-propelled gre-nades and some mortar rounds. Howell said that three improvised explo-

sive devices were found and blown up. That could be a good sign, he added, indicating that perhaps people there were buying into a future that was democratic and non-oppressive

"Everybody was expecting a little more action, a little more hype," Howell said. "Of course, we're not out of the woods yet. There could be some surpris on the way home

There weren't. There were just a few glares. Some kids waved to the passing troops. One person threw a rock that hit a passing Humvee. Most people just stood and watched.

The operation would be followed up in coming days with soldiers and interpreters explaining to residents of Buhriz the reason for Tuesday's actions.
"We'll tell them, 'This is why we did this,' " How-

ell said. F-mail Charlie Coon: coonc@mail.estrines.osd.mi

## GIs detain 11 suspected of election-day attacks

BY CHARLIE COON Stars and Stripes

BUHRIZ, Iraq - Soldiers detained 11 people Tuesday as part of Operation Rock Hammer, a search mission Tuesday in Bu-hriz, a city of 60,000 on the outskirts of Baqouba.

"Most of the detainees were directly involved in the attacks on election day in Buhriz," said Capt. Jason Staraitis of Youngstown, Ohio. "There were very big attacks, and this population didn't have a very good turnout for the The purpose of the 42nd Infan-

try Division operation, conducted by 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment, was to arrest suspects in city attacks and to find weanons and explosives. Detainees were brought to a hollowed-out brick building on the city's edge. We search the detainees and

safeguard them in this building,' Staraitis said. "In case we take fire, we want to make sure they're safe

Staraitis said the detainees were found at sites identified as places where insurgents were living or hiding. They were searched and photographed and had hoods put over their heads Their hands were tied behind their backs as U.S. soldiers stood guard.

They eventually would have their thumbprints scanned and would face interrogation by intelligence officers.

"We don't want them to see our faces, and we definitely don't want them to know who [the other detainees are]," Staraitis said.
"That way they won't know what the other guy said.

#### A little loco?

During the perils of war, soldiers sometimes need a steadying presence to help them through Chaplain (Capt.) had times. Derek Murray was ready to serve as the conscience of Tuesday's operation.

Murray, of North Berwick, Maine, was present to give reas-surance to the wounded, compassion to the scared, and guidance to soldiers guarding the Iraqi detainees

"I'm sort of the ethical thermometer," Murray said. "For example, God forbid if we ended up fighting in that cemetery over there. It would be a huge ethical and spiritual affront to these people. We would be encroaching on their faith, sort of like if we en-tered one of their mosques."

Murray, who goes unarmed to the opera-tions, said he likes being

battal

"You have

to either be

have a call-

ing to be a

in



nastor these situa-tions," Mursaid. "I'm probably a little of both

crazv

#### It's a bird ...

While some solders made their way into downtown Buhriz and searched homes and shops, others worked on the edge of town trying to ensure a safe trip back to base. One tool they used was the Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. or SUAV.

The hand-launched SUAV is a battery-powered aircraft that weighs about 4 pounds. A small propeller powers it through the sky as a video camera in its nose feeds pictures of the ground to soldiers. From the ground, it sounds like a big mosquito flying overhead

"We're flying over the routes back [to the base], searching for anvone planting Froadside bombs], searching rooftops and sniper positions," said Spc. Gary Freis of Tucson, Ariz. "We haven't seen anything yet. They've got the road pretty well protected."

Fries said the SHAV has a ton speed of about 40 mph but a strong headwind can slow it down to about 5 mph. It is designed to fly for up to an hour, crash land and break apart upon impact, then quickly be reassembled for another sortie.



Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 10th Field Artillery Regiment lead a detainee into a holding area. The detainee was apprehended during the battalion's operation Tuesday in Buhriz, Iraq.

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# Senator knocks delays in reimbursing GIs

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department hasn't developed a plan to reimburse soldiers for equipment they've bought to fight in Iraq and Afghanistan despite requirements in a law passed last year, a senator says.

In a letter sent Wednesday to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Sen. Christopher J. Dodd, D-Conn., asked for details on the Pentagon's progress setting up the reimbursement program and questioned why it was not in place yet.

"Very simply, this is either negligence on their part, because they were not happy with this when it passed, or it's incompetence," Dodd told The Associated



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an Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke said Wednesday that Rumsfeld will respond to Dodd's letter after he has reviewed it. She had no comment on the progress of reimbursement regulations. The Defense Department provided no further comment Thursday.

Soldiers serving in Iraq and their families have reported buy-

Press. "It's ing everything from higher-qualipretty outrageous when their Humvees, medical supplies you have all and even global positioning devictheir rhetoes.

> "There should be no higher priority for our government than ensuring that American troops are well-equipped, particularly those on the front lines of battle in Iraq and Afghanistan." Dold wrote. "Given their immense sacrifices, as well as the critical contributions of their families and communities, I hereby request that you immediately inform me as to the status of the Department's action to comply with this statutory requirement."

In response to complaints, Congress last year passed Dodd's amendment requiring the Pentagon to reimburse members of the

armed services for the cost of any safety or health equipment that they bought or someone else bought on their behalf.

Under the law, the DOD had until Feb. 25 to develop regulations on the reimbursement, which is limited to \$1,100 per Dodd asked that Rumsfeld provide details on the department's progress. But he also said it was unclear what recourse he has, other than public embarrassment, to force the department to act

Stars and Stripes editor Pat Dickson contributed to this report from Washing-



#### U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Pr

As of Wednesday, at least 1,512 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associate d Press count. At least 1,149 died as a result of hostile action, according to the Defense De-

partment. The figures include four military civilians. The latest deaths reported by

the military:

One soldier was killed
Wednesday when his patrol was
hit by an explosive in Baghdad.
The latest identifications re-

ported by the military:

Army Sgt. Andrew L. Bos-

sert, 24, Fountain City, Wis., and Army Pfc. Michael W. Franklin, 22, Coudersport, Pa.; died Monday in Ramadi. Iraq, when a ve-

day in Ramadi, Iraq, when a vehicle-borne explosive detonated near them; assigned to the 44th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Howze, Korea.

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# **Investigator faults troops for detainee abuses**

BY JON R. ANDERSON Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON - A top investigator ordered by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld to look into abuses at Abu Ghraib and other

military de tention facilities laid blame at the feet of indi vidual troops and their commanders, but not ton-level officials and noli cy-makers.



Reporting to the Senate

Armed Services Committee on Thursday. Vice Adm. Albert Church reported his key finding was that "clearly, there was no policy written or otherwise at any level that directed or condoned torture or abuse "

After more than 800 interviews

of documents, Church said that while officials in Washington could learn from "missed opportunities" in providing better guid-ance to field commanders, no specific blame could be cast.

"Nevertheless," he added, "we did identify problems.

Among his findings: Leadership breakdown: Citing a "breakdown of good order and discipline" among some units Church wrote in the unclassified version of the report's executive summary, "This breakdown implies a failure of unit-level lead-

■ Heat of combat: "The nature of the enemy, and the tactics it has employed in Iraq [and to a lesser extend in Afghanistan] may have played a role in this abuse," wrote Church, explaining that 23 out of 70 documented cases of abuse occurred at the "point of capture" when emotions

are running high. ■ Ignored warning signs: Writ-

classified details, "there was a failure to react to early warning signs of abuse" by local commanders. Church testified that the Red Cross in particular had repeatedly raised red flags at Abu Ghraib, but that leadership reaction was "not as swift as it

could have been.' Church, who until recently was the Navy Inspector General and now heads the Navy staff at the Pentagon, took fire from various corners of the committee, however, for not delving deeper into

some areas of concern Michigan Sen. Carl Levin, the ranking Democrat on the committee, was quick to take Church to

"There has been no assessment of accountability of any senior officials," Levin told Church. "The failure of accountability of senior leaders sends the wrong signal to our troops and the American people. It harms the United States' standing as a nation of laws, and undermines the high standards of our armed forces

SEE BLAME ON PAGE 12

#### More to face discipline

The fates of several senior officers still hang in the balance as officers of the series of the seri

Abu Ghraib and issued confusing policies on interrogations.

Status: Under investigation. Remains commander of V Corps. Recently named in an American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit under

centry nameu in an American cvun changes of war crimes Maj. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski Maj. Gen. Walter Wojdakowski Sanchez's deputy commander in Iraq and, until recently, at V Corps. Responsible for overseeing support rect oversight of the 205th MI Brigade and Solth MB Brigade at Bub Ghraib. Previous investigations de-termined he falled to provide prop-servation of the commander of the commander Status: Recently reassigned as special assistant to the commander

Status: Recently reassigned as special assistant to the commander of Army forces in Europe. Remains under investigation.

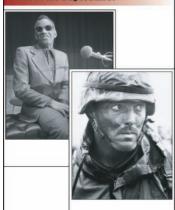
Brig. Gen. Janis Karpinski — Commander of 800th Military Po-

at Abu Ghraib that led to the abuses

at Abu Ghraib that led to the abuses.
One investigation also accused her
of "material misrepresentations"
during questioning.
Status: Suspended from command duties. Recently issued a letter of reprimand by Army Chief of
Staff Dick Cody. Named in ACLU

ter of reprimand by Army Chief of Staff Dick Cody, Named in ACLU Staff Dick Cody, Named in ACLU Staff Dick Cody, Named in ACLU Staff Dick Cody, Staff Dick Cody

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# Blast at funeral kills at least 30 in Mosul

BY SINDBAD AHMED

The Associated Press

MOSUL, Iraq — A suicide bomber blew himself up at a Shi-tie mosque during a flueral Thursday, Killing at least 30 people, an attack that came as Iraq's main Shiite party and a Kurdish bloc said they reached a deal that sets the stage for a new government to be formed.

U.S. troops cordoned off the northeastern Tameem neighborhood near the mosque, a poor area of the city crowded with many homes.

Civilian vehicles helped ambulance crews in ferrying casualties to hospitals.

"As we were inside the mosque, we saw a ball of fire and heard a huge explosion," said Tahir Abdullah Sultan, 45. "After that blood and pieces of flesh were scattered around the place." he added.

Insurgents in the past have targeted Shiite mosques and funerals.

The U.S. military unit that controls the area could not immediately be reached for comment.

Mosul has been a hotbed of insurgent activity and the scene of many bombings, drive-by shootings and assassinations against the country's security services, Iraq's Shiite majority and people thought to be working with U.S.-led forces.

The deal between the clergy-backed United Iraqi Alliance and a Kurdish coalition will allow a new government to be named when the National Assemble opens next week.

It calls for the government to begin discussion on the return of about 100,000 Kurds to the oil-rich northern city of Kirkuk and talks about redrawing existing Kurdish regions to include the

city in Iraq's new constitution.

It also gives the Kurds just one major Cabinet post — one fewer than they demanded — in return for making one of their leaders.

Jalal Talabani, Iraq's first-ever Kurdish president. One ministry will go to the country's Sunni Arab minority, which largely stayed away from the Jan. 30 elections.

The Kurds agreed to back conservative Islamic Dawa Party leader Ibrahim al-Jaafari for

prime minister.

As part of the deal, any land agreement will be incorporated into the country's new constitu-

tion, which must be drafted by mid-August and approved by referendum two months later.

The dealmaking went on as violence continued against Iraq's security forces. In the latest strikes, gummen killed two district police chiefs and two others Iraqis in attacks in Baghdad on Thursday. Also, an accountant working for a Kurdish television station was killed in northern Iraq.

Assailants in two cars opened

fire on a pickup truck carrying Col. Ahmed Abeis, the head of Salihiyah police in western Baghdad, killing him, his driver and a guard, police Col. Khazim Abbas

said. In an Internet statement, a group claiming to be Al-Qaida in Iraq took responsibility for an attack in the same area on "an intelligence officer who used to investigate the Mujahedeen and hurt them." The authenticity of the statement could not be verified.

# HOW TO GET AWAY WITH A GREAT DEAL.

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#### Blame: Church defends depth of investigation

#### BLAME, FROM PAGE 11

"The bland label of 'missed opportunities' does not explain the absence of policies," added Levin. "These are failures of command at high level." Church, who earlier said he

was ordered to review the investigations completed so far and fill in the gaps not covered by those reports, responded he was not tasked with delving into the question of leadership accountability. In a heated exchange with Ari-

in a heated exchange with Artzona Republican Sen. John McCain, Church defended the Bush administration's decision to withhold Geneva Convention protections from captured Taliban soldiers in Afghanistan.

"You know the North Vietnamese made the same determination about American prisoners," said McCain, who, as a naval aviator spent five years at the infamous "Hanoi Hilton" after getting shot down during the Vietnam war.

"It's a good debate," responded Church.

"Well sir, I think it's a little more than a good debate," McCain said. "I am very concerned about what will happen to Americans who are taken prisoner unless we have clear and specific guidelines that we adhere to."

d about what will happen to

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#### IN THE STATES

CHICAGO - Police investigating a man who killed himself during a traffic stop in Wisconsin found evidence in his van that pointed toward the slayings of a federal judge's husband and mother last week authorities said Thurs-

A suicide note indicated U.S. District Judge Joan Humphrey Lefkow had ruled against the man in a civil case, costing him "his house, his job and family," the Chi-cago Tribune reported, citing unidentified sources. The legal dis pute involved the man's treatment for cancer

The man was stopped in West Allis, Wis., Wednesday because his van had a faulty tail light, West Allis police said Thursday. As officers approached the car, the man killed himself with a gunshot to the

head, police said. West Allis Police Chief Dean Puschnig confirmed that materials found in the car indicated a link to the killings, but did not give details or identify the suicide victim. Chicago police identified him as Bart

Ross, who was about 57. Chicago police cordoned off the street outside Ross' last known ad-

dress Thursday morning. The suicide note found in the van in Wisconsin included details in the case that were not released



A police officer looks at a photo graph he took of a Chicago house Thursday. The house was the last

known address of a man who killed himself Wednesday and is part of the probe of the murders of a judge's husband and mother.

to the public, Tribune Deputy Man-aging Editor James Warren said in an interview on CNN

About 300 .22-caliber shells were found in Ross' vehicle, the newspaper reported. Investigators found three casings of the same caliber in the Lefkow home. They also found a list in the van of people who Ross thought had mistreated him, the newspaper said

# Police say suicide note related to 2 III deaths Agent Orange lawsuit by Vietnamese dismissed

#### Ruling based in part on a lack of research

NEW YORK - A federal judge Thursday dismissed a lawsuit by some 4 million Vietnamese claiming that U.S. chemical companies committed war crimes by making Agent Orange for use during the Vietnam War.

U.S. District Judge Jack B. Weinstein disagreed that allegedly toxic defoliant and similar U.S. herbicides should be considered poisons banned under internat rules of war, even though they may have had comparable effects on people and land.

The judge also found that the plaintiffs could not prove that Agent Orange had caused their illnesses, largely because of a lack of large-scale research.

Plaintiffs' lawyers said an appeal was planned.

The lawsuit was the first attempt by Vietnamese plaintiffs to seek compensation for the effects of Agent Orange, which has been linked to cancer, diabetes and birth defects among Vietnamese citizens and American veterans.

U.S. aircraft sprayed the chemi-cal between 1962 and 1971 to de-

used as cover by the enemy.

Lawyers for Monsanto. Dow Chemical and more than a dozen other companies had said they should not be punished for following what they believed to be the orders of the U.S. government

"We've said all along that any issues regarding wartime activities should be resolved by the U.S. and Vietnamese governments." Dow Chemical spokesman Scot Wheeler. "We believe that defoliants saved lives by protecting al-lied forces ... and did not create ad-verse health effects."

#### Louisiana apartment fire kills 11

MARRERO, La. - Flames engulfed an apartment where a family was using candles because their electricity had not yet been turned on, killing 11 people whose exit was blocked when they tried to drag out a burning mattress, authorities said

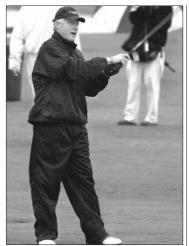
Four members of the family escaped The victims ranged in age from 6 months to 42

years, police said. Their names were not immediately released by police.

The family was using candles for light or heat because they had moved into the apartment the day before and didn't have electricity, Jefferson Parish Sheriff Harry Lee said.

A mattress caught fire and the family became trapped when they tried to haul it outside, he said.





Former President Bill Clinton watches his shot at the Medalist Golf Club before a benefit golf tournament for tsunami relief efforts on Wednesday. Clinton's surgery on Thursday went fine, his office said.

# **Surgery on Clinton** deemed 'successful'

The

ex-president

was described

as "restina

comfortablu."

By VERENA DOBNIK

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Former President Bill Clinton underwent his second operation in six months on Thursday, a successful surgery to clear up minor complications from his quadruple heart bypass, his office said.

Clinton arrived at New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Co-

lumbia University Medical Center shortly after 5 a.m. Brian Dota hospital spokesman, said at 1:45 p.m. that the former president was out of surgery.

"The surgery was successful," said a statement from Clinton's office. The ex-president was described as "resting comfortably," and an afternoon press conference was planned at the hospital.

Clinton, 58, had fluid and scar tissue removed from his left lung where it developed after his quadruple heart bypass six months ago. The problems crop up in only a faction of 1 percent of bypass cases

The Secret Service, police and hospital security staff conducted a sweep of the walkways and corridors of the hospital pavilion as Clinton was whisked inside through a side entrance.

His wife, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, was at the hospital with the former president on Thursday morning. Earlier in the week, the New York Democrat said she was "very confident about the outcome" of the procedure.

Across the street from the hospital, good wishes and prayers for Clinton were offered at a restaurant named El Presidente. "I pray to God that he is well,

that he comes out healthy," said manager Wilton Rafael Marte Fermin, 41, a native of the Dominican Republic. "I say that from my heart because he was a very good president

helped immigrants get jobs." Doctors were expected to perform the new procedure sometime in the morning. It is done through a small incision or with a video-assisted thoracoscope inserted between the ribs

On Wednesday, Clinton was in Florida at a charity golf tournament to benefit tsunami victims He appeared relaxed, joking about his game and saying he wasn't worried.

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Hanau

"I've had an unusual life. If something happens — if I get struck by lightning on the golf course today — I'd wind up ahead of where 99.99 percent of the peo-ple who ever lived did." he said.

## Jackson arrives late for trial

The Associated Press

SANTA MARIA, Calif. - A pa-jama-clad Michael Jackson arrived more than an hour late to his child molestation trial Thursday, but the judge who had threatened to arrest him resumed the case without taking any action against the singer in open court.

The singer's young accuser re-turned to the stand for a second day, saving Jackson gave him wine and called it "Jesus juice."

Superior Court Judge Rodney S Melville had issued an arrest warrant when Jackson failed to arrive on time, but told defense attorney Thomas Mesereau Jr. he would hold it for one hour. The judge, obviously angry, also had threatened to revoke his \$3 million bail.

Mesereau, who told the judge Jackson was being treated for a severe back problem, paced outside court and talked on his cell phone until the singer arrived, a

line. Jackson walked in gingerly. dressed in a jacket over pajamas looked

and distressed Attorneys met with the judge in chambers before court resumed and Melville ad-dressed the jurors, telling them not to draw any

negative inferences

from the developments 'Mr. Jackson had a medical problem and it was necessary for me to order his appearance,

Melville said Hospital spokeswoman Janet O'Neill had said Jackson left Santa Ynez Valley Cottage Hospital - which is about 35 miles from the courthouse - shortly after the judge issued his order,

son's condition

Jackson's own spokeswoman, Raymone K. Bain said outside court that the singer's back "gave out on him" after he woke up and he was rushed to an emergency room around 5:45 a.m. "He

knows the seriousness of this. He's not play-acting," Bain said. When Jackson was arraigned in January 2004, the judge admonished him for arriving late and re-questing a bathroom break. Last month, during the first week of jury selection, Jackson went to a hospital with flu symptoms, delaying the proceedings for a week and prompting the judge to tell jury prospects that "he really did have the flu." Jackson had been on time or early since then.

Jackson, 46, is accused of mo lesting a 13-year-old boy, giving him alcohol and conspiring to hold the boy's family captive to get them to rebut a damaging TV documentary in which Jackson said he allowed children to sleep in his bedroom.

#### H.W. Bush's coat correction

WASHINGTON - Former President George H.W. Bush is confessing after 16 years. The raincoat he had an agent give to a rain-drenched elderly woman in a Warsaw town square belonged to the agent, not the president.

The woman, one of thousands of onlookers, was caught unprepared for the downpour that marked the president's outdoor speech in the capital in 1989. Alongside her, in the front row, stood a U.S. Secret Service agent, with a raincoat, presumably the president's, folded over his arm.

Bush, standing coatless on the platform under a large umbrella, motioned the agent to give the soaked woman the coat, which she happily accept-

Reminded of the incident Tuesday by a reporter

who was on the trip to Warsaw, Bush smiled and declared. "Yes, but it was the agent's raincoat."

#### Delta cuts back food, pillows

ATLANTA - Delta Air Lines Inc. is dropping its food-for-sale program, boosting prices on alcoholic beverages and eliminating pillows on many flights as the struggling carrier seeks to improve customer service even as its tries to become more efficient

The nation's third-largest airline announced Wednesday that starting April 3 it will replace its food-for-sale program, which was launched on selected flights in July 2003, with a wider assortment of free snacks in coach class on most domestic and some Latin American and Caribbean flights of more than 90 minutes

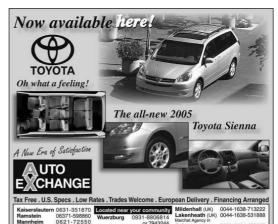
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From The Associated Press



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the best. 77

Peter Jennings

ARC anchor.

on Dan Rather

# Rather signs off as CBS anchor



Dan Rather anchors his last "CBS Evening News" broadcast Wednesday from the CBS Broadcast Center in New York. Rather began anchoring on March 9, 1981.

BY DAVID BAUDER The Associated Press

NEW YORK - To the end of his career as CBS News anchor. Dan Rather stared down his critics.

Rather ended his final broadcast at the "CBS Evening News" on Wednesday with the message he was once ridiculed for offering:

"courage."
The 73-year-old Texan has covered a breathtaking array of stories in more than 40 years at CBS, from the Kennedy assassination to the recent tsunami, and was the network's most visible face for the past 24 years. He replaced Walter Cronkite evening news on March 9.

Bob Schieffer is Rather's temporary replacement starting Thursday. CBS expects to name a permanent anchor

team to succeed Rather in the coming months. He was the second of the three men who dominated network news for more than two decades to step down in four months. NBC's Tom Brokaw exited in November, leaving ABC's Peter Jennings remaining at "World News Tonight."

His voice slightly hoarse, Rather was all business for the first 20 minutes of Wednesday's broadcast. He didn't mention the special day, and neither did correspondents John Roberts or Anthony Mason when they threw stories back to him.

Then Rather looked back on what he called the most important story of his career - the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. He opened member this day as long as you live.'

He thanked viewers at the end of Wednes-day's newscast, then mentioned Sept. 11 survivors, tsunami survivors, the American military, the oppressed, the sick and fellow journalists in dangerous places.

"And, to each of you," he said, "courage.

He seemed to savor each word of his signoff: "For the 'CBS Evening News,' Dan Rather reporting. 44 It goes without Good night.'

For a week in Sentember 1986, Rather ended the news with the word "courage." He gave it up after being mocked for it.

Rather wants most to be remembered as a reporter and, even after 24 years as anchor, never seemed to fully em-brace that role. He said he's not retiring, but changing jobs, He will be a reporter for CBS's "60 Minutes" broadcasts

Both Jennings and Williams paid tribute to Rather at the end of their broadcasts. Williams called him a "very tough competitor" and a friend of nearly 20 years. On "World News Tonight," Jennings noted

the National Guard story and said ABC took no pleasure in the pain it caused its competi-

"For many of us, being a reporter turned out to be a calling," Jennings said. "It is an identity for Dan. He would be the first to reflect — as all serious reporters do — that this opportunity to work on behalf of the public in-

"Dan and I are also friends," he said. "It goes without saying that we wish him nothing but the best."

#### Taser used in hospital

ORLANDO, Fla. - A police officer kneeled on a drug suspect's chest to restrain him and twice used a Taser stun gun after he refused to provide a urine sample at a hospital, authorities said.

Antonio Wheeler, 18, was arrested Friday on a drug charge and taken to an emergency room after telling officers he had consumed cocaine, police said

At Florida Hospital, Wheeler refused to provide a urine sample and was handcuffed and secured with leather straps to a bed, where hospital workers tried to catheterize him, a police affidavit said.

Officer Peter Linnenkamp reported he jumped onto the bed with his knees on Wheeler's chest to restrain him. When Wheeler still refused to be catheterized, Linnenkamp said he twice used his Taser, which sends 50,000 volts into a

"After the second shock. [Wheeler] stated he would urinate and calmed down enough to be given the portable uri-nal." Linnenkamp wrote.

The Florida Department of Law Enforcement is investigating; the officer who used the taser, Officer Peter Linnenkamp, has been relieved of duty ding the investigation.

Wheeler faces charges including possession of cocaine with intent to sell, escape and resisting without violence.

From The Associated Press

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Lisa Walker, a U.S. Forest Service maintenance worker, uses binoculars Wednesday to view steam as it rises from the crater of Mount St. Helens in Washington State.

#### Mount St. Helens blast labeled 'small potatoes'

The Associated Press

MOUNT ST. HELENS, Wash. -Josh White has rotten timing. The 31-year-old from Astoria, Ore., missed it when Mount St.

Helens reawakened in the fall. On Wednesday, the volcano enthusiast rushed to the mountain to get a look at the massive plume that stretched seven miles high the night before. It had been replaced by a wispy cloud.

'It's been twice in a row now that the mountain has blown before I could get up here," White said, camera in hand. "I do think if it goes big, this is going to be it — but what a way to go."

For a few minutes Tuesday, it seemed like it could be the big one Scientists at the U.S. Geological Survey's volcano observatory in Vancouver, Wash., were getting ready to head home when the squiggly line on the computer that tracks seismic activity at Mount St. Helens suddenly turned a solid black

"It just kept on going and going and going," said research hydrolo-gist Jon Major, describing the seismic line that registered Tuesday's earthquake measuring a magnitude of 2.0.

The mountain, located some 50 miles away, was belching steam and ash, signaling the most power-ful blast since Mount St. Helens awoke last fall.

Compared to the eruption that killed 57 people on May 18, 1980, the plume "is really small pota-toes." Major said.

#### IN THE WORLD

# Spanish cope with bombing on anniversary

The Associated Press

MADRID, Spain — One year ago on a Madrid commuter train, 10 backpack bombs allegedly planted by Muslim extremists blew up, killing 191 people and wounding more than 1,500.

on Thursday, Spain's Parliament observed five minutes of silence — broken only by the mournful strains of a cello playing Bach's Sarabande Suite No. 2 — in memory of victims of the bombings as Spain prepared to mark the massacre's first anniver-

Lawmakers at the Congress of Deputies stood grim-faced by their seats in a prelude to a series of memorial acts scheduled for Evidou

"That ominous day sowed pain and desolation in the city of Madrid," the legislature said in a statement read out before the tribute. "It was a direct blow at our life in peace and freedom and broke the hearts of all our citizens," the legislature said in a extrament.

statement. Friday's main memorial act will also be silent — a short vigil at a park where 192 olive and cypress trees have been planted in honor of the people killed on the train and one special forces officer who died three weeks later while trying to arrest suspects.

A year later, "11-M" has become Spanish shorthand for a national tragedy, much like 9/11 is in the United States.

Fewer than half the injured have come to terms with their tragedy and moved on with their lives, said Marisa Perles, a psychologist who works closely with the victims. The rest just relive their brush with death.

"The first year the pain is extremely intense," Perles said.

#### Hunger strike at airport

BRUSSELS, Belgium — A spokesman for a group of unarmed Iranian protesters holed up on a Lufthansa jetliner at Brussels airport said Thursday they are on a hunger strike and are prepared to die for their cause to see the overthrow of the Iranian government.

"We won't be moved from here unless we die and they take our bodies from the airplane," said the man who gave only his first name, Ira, in a telephone interview with The Associated Press from the plane.

He said the group of protesters

numbered 79, including four children and 22 women, and wanted the United States, the European Union and Russia to sign a statement to stop cooperating with the Iranian government.

Police said there were only 59 passengers refusing to the leave the plane, out of the total 103 that took the flight from Frankfurt, Germany.

From The Associated Press

# **Ex-Kosovo PM charged with war crimes**

BY ANTHONY DEUTSCH The Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — A U.N. war crimes indictment unsealed Thursday charged Kosovo's former prime minister with 37 counts of war crimes, accusing him of responsibility for the rape, murder and torture of Serb and Roma civilians by Albanian separatists during the province's 1998.99 war.

In one of the most high-profile cases since the trial of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, Ramush Haradinaj, one of the ethnic Albanian commanders of the Western-backed Kosovo Liberation Army during its fight against Milosevic's Serb troops, was accused of 37 counts of war crimes.

Haradinaj surrendered to the court on Wednesday, a day after resigning as prime minister of Kosovo, a province which is still officially a part of Serbia, although it is run by the United Nations. He is the highest-ranking Kosovo Albanian to go on trial at the Iloxearadd tribunal

The indictment charges Haradinaj with 17 counts of crimes



Kosovo's former prime minister, Ramush Haradinaj, arrives at Pristina's airport Wednesday to fly to The Hague, Netherlands, to face war crimes charges for his alleged part in atrocities during the 1998-99 war between ethnic Albanians and Serb forces.

ern Kosovo.

against humanity for alleged persecution, inhumane acts, unlawful detention, deportation or forcible transfer of civilians. He also faces 20 counts of violations of the laws or customs of war for cruel treatment, murder and rape.
From April until September
1998, Haradinaj was the KLA's
most senior commander in the
so-called Dukagijin zone of west-

U.N. prosecutors accuse him of responsibility for crimes committed by subordinates and personal involvement in beatings as part of a wider "joint criminal enterprise" aimed at forcing the Serbian and Roma populations out of Kosovo.

The 25-page indictment lists horrific acts of racist violence allegedly carried out by Haradinaj and his three brothers against their village neighbors.

"KLA forces under his control operated in a structured and disciplined manner, provided overall control of planning and organization of operations, and established a system whereby individuals were targeted for abduction, mistreatment and murder, and whereby a systematic attack on vulnerable sections of the civilian population was carried out," the indictiment said.

Haradinaj also faces murder

Haradinaj, 36, could face life imprisonment if convicted of any of the charges. He is expected to appear in court in coming days, when he will be asked to enter a plea.



Residents carry coffins of relatives during a mass burial Thursday in San Jose, Philippines. Sobbing parents prepared for a mass burial Thursday of 27 elementary schoolchildren who died after eating a snack of cassava, a root that's poisonous if not prepared correctly.

# Filipinos bury 27 children who died after eating improperly cooked food

BY TERESA CEROJANO The Associated Press

MABINI, Philippines — Weeping relatives watched as the coffins of some of the 27 schoolchildren who died after eating improperly prepared cassava root were lined up for burial at a Roman Catholic chapel in the central Philippines

Overcome with grief, Lorenza Asas, mother of 7-year-old Sherwin Asas, stomped her feet on the floor. "I can't accept that my son is dead," she said, as her relatives tried to calm her.

The victims, most ages 7 to 13, bought the deep-fried caramelized cassava from vendors during snack time at the San Jose school in Mabini town on the central Philippine island of Bohol.

Another 103 people were hospitalized with severe stomach pains and diarrhea. Starchy cassava roots, while rich in protein, minerals and vitamins, are poisonous without proper preparation. The human digestive system can convert part of them into cyanide if they are eaten raw.

At a foothill cemetery, parents, residents and officials watched 12 coffins placed into side-by-side concrete niches.

"Maybe everyone here is still in shock," Mayor Stephan Rances said with tears in his eyes as workers nailed the coffins shut before sealing the niches with cement. Relatives wept nearby.

Anicita Luyong, 33, grieved over the coffin of her 7-year-old son, Wilfredo Luyong Jr., in her house near the school.

She said the boy, who had wanted to be a soldier, came home crying with severe abdominal pain.

He was taken to a hospital but did not survive.

One of the two vendors was also ill and still hospitalized Thursday, while the other was in police custody to protect her from outraged parents, said the town mayor's aide, Philip Fuderanan.

Authorities have not ruled out criminal charges against the vendors.

Investigators were checking whether the vendors failed to properly cook the cassava, and studying unconfirmed reports that tainted cooking oil was used, said Health Secretary Manuel

Officials of the National Bureau of Investigation and the Health Department were collecting cassava samples at the site and drawing patients' blood for analysis, said provincial health officer Reymoses Cabarnot.



Haruyo Nihei. a survivor of the 1945 Tokyo firebombing by the United States. displays a cylinder of M69 last week at the Center of the Tokyo Raid and War Damages. The Tokyo firebombing. which killed 100,000 people, has long been overshadowed by the subsequent U.S. atomic attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki



# An overshadowed pain

#### Tokyo marks 60th anniversary of WWII firebombing

BY JOSEPH COLEMAN The Associated Press

TOKYO — Amid recollections of horror and solemn vows of peace, Japan on Thursday commemorated the day 60 years ago when U.S. bombers burned Tokyo to the ground in a fire-bombing that killed 100,000 pele, nearly all of them civilians.

ple, nearly all of them civilians. Hundreds of survivors burned incense and clasped their hands in prayer for the victims at a memorial hall for the air raid in downtown Tokyo on Thursday morning, and a series of speakers pledged to forever avoid the

scourge of war.— nothing is more important than world peace," declared survivor Heiyo Majima, 75, ahead of the ceremony, which was attended by Prince Akishino — a grandson of wartime Emperor Hirohito.

or Hirohito.

The March 9-10, 1945, air raid
was one of the great cataclysms
of World War II, and a terrifying
example of the then-widespread

targeting of civilians.
In a single night, 334 B-29 "Su-

perfortress" bombers carpeted Tokyo with a half-million incendiary cylinders, sparking fires that spread with deadly speed through the cramped wooden homes and buildings of densely populated downtown quarters.

Survivors describe visions of hell: mothers immolated while cradling their babies; parks and streets piled with incinerated, charcoal-black corpses; rivers and canals choked with the bodies of victims who hoped in vain the water would save their lives

Superheated air rose to the sky, creating a whirlwind that sucked victims into the flames and fed twisting infernos. The turbulence was so strong that it terrified the pilots of the B-29 bombers far above the city.

"I feel great sorrow thinking of the victims' lives lost in the air raid," Tokyo Gov. Shintaro Ishihara, 72, who spent the war at his family's home in a Tokyo suburb, said at an afternoon commemoration that drew 2,000 people.

Despite the destruction, the Tokyo raid has long been overshadowed in history by the U.S. nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. That was reflected on Thursday in Japan, where the commemorations received only perfunctory news coverage and top national officials had little to

say about the anniversary.
Still, the Tokyo attack killed
more people immediately than either atomic explosion and is widely considered the most devastating air raid ever.

Along with the February 1945 bombardment of Dresden, Germany, the attack on Tokyo marked a new chapter in the Allies' willingness to incinerate whole cities — and their civilian residents — in the quest for World War II victory.

The official death toll was 83,000, but historians, considering the destruction of records and the chaos following the attack—generally agree that about 100,000 people died in that one night of fire.

The attack and the suffering it brought are widely seen in Japan as a lesson in the evils of militarism, and many here readily acknowledge that the destruction of their country was largely a result of Tokyo's wartime imperialism and the attack on Pearl Harbor that triggered the Pacific War.

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# Pro-Syrian regains Lebanon position

BY SAM F. GHATTAS The Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Lebanon's president, bolstered by a massive loyalist protest and seeking to consolidate the pro-Syrian bloc in government, reappointed Omar Karami as prime minister on Thursday, 10 days after he had stepped down under popular opposition pressure.

The move ensures Damascus'

The move ensures Damascus: continued dominance in Lebanon's politics. Syria's allies feel they have the momentum in the political crisis and President Emile Lahoud's move appears to be part of political jockeying to show who sets the agenda as Syria's troop redeployment picked

Lebanon's defense minister said "thousands" of Syria's 14,000 soldiers in Lebanon will head home and the rest will reposition in the eastern Bekaa Valley.

Rarami rejected suggestions that his reappointment was inspired by Syria, saying his supporters had the majority in the perilament as well as with the people, a reference to the hundreds of thousands of pro-Syrian supporters who participated in Alezbollah-organized railly Tues-

The opposition, which orchestrated the street protests that led to Karami's Feb. 28 resignation, rejected the reappointment even before it became official. Leading opposition politician Walid Jumb-

latt said that although Syrian intelligence were still in control, he was willing to give Karami a chance

chance.

The decision by pro-Syrian Lahoud came after legislators, ignoring weeks of popular anti-government protests, advised the president during consultations Wednesday to rename Karami. The outgoing premier was assured nomination after 71 of 78 eligislators put forward his name, more than half of the votes required in the 128-member legisla-

Karami, who had continued to lead a caretaker government, immediately called for a national unity government, which he invited the opposition to join. Karami said he will begin consultations early next week with parliamentary blocs to form a Cabinet.

The opposition have demanded a neutral government, complaining that the national unity proposal was a trap to bring opposition members into the Cabinet without giving them a say in policy-making.

making.

Karami suggested he might not proceed if he fails in bringing all factions together.

factions together.
Syria is keen to keep its hold on
Lebanese decision-making as it
pulls its forces back and negotiates with Beirut on the troops' full
removal at a later date. Lebanese
officials have said the first phase
pullback, including of Syrian intelligence, would be completed by
March 23.

# Former leaders appeal to U.N. to define terrorism

The Associated Press

MADRID, Spain — Former world leaders appealed to the United Nations on Thursday to come up with a definition of terrorism, arguing that political aims should never be used as an excuse to kill innocent civilians.

The issue has long been one of the most delicate, in part because governments often use violence to accomplish goals.

The United Nations has struggled with the issue, lacking agreement on just what constitutes terrorism. Some states want one to exempt "freedom fighters," while others insist any definition must cover govern-

ments and their soldiers.

However, delegates at a four-day international conference on terrorism insist that having a common understanding on what terrorism is would permit the United Nations and other world bodies to fight it jointly and help create laws that would allow for the perpetrators to be prosecuted.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and other world leaders and experts attending the summit here on democracy, terrorism and security are grappling with ways to combat violence without jeopardizing human rights

#### Americans on high alert

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — U.S. citizens living in a residential compound in western Saudi Arabia have been put on high alert after the American Embassy issued an increased threat level

warning, officials said Thursday. The warning singled out the Sierra Village, on the outskirts of Jiddah, where tensions remain high following a Dec. 6 attack on the U.S. consulate by Islamic mili-

"Official Americans are relocating to an alternate location as a result of this threat," according to a statement posted on the U.S. Embassy's Web site.

#### Protests disruptive

PARIS — Planes, trains and metros were canceled, and postal workers and teachers stayed home in a nationwide day of defiance Thursday against government economic policies — notably plans to let the French work longer hours.

The strikes coincided with a visit by Olympic inspectors assessing the French capital's bid to

host the 2012 Summer Games.
Tens of thousands of protesters
marched through Paris, answering the call of unions for a massive turnout to defend France's
35-hour workweek and to push
for more jobs and salary talks.

#### YOUR MONEY

# Slick advice about changing motor oil

My co-worker and I are having a disagreement about oil changes. Our question: When changing oil, is it advisable to use the same brand of oil all the time? I have always used the same brand, and think this is the way to go. She feels that as long as the oil is changed every 3,000 miles, it doesn't matter which brand is used, as long as you use winteror summer-weight oil appropri-

Jacki т TOM: hope

you

don't have a lot riding on this,

mulation from time to time to

make their oils better ... or chean-

TOM: There are only a few things you need to look for to

make sure the bottle of oil you're

buying is suitable for your car

First, you want to look for the API

seal. That's the American Petro-

leum Institute, an organization

that certifies that motor oils meet

the cooperative standards set by

engineers, manufacturers and

RAY: Next, you want to use the

grade of oil recommended in your

owner's manual. There are really no "summer" or "winter" weight

graduate students in chemistry.

#### **Click and Clack**

oil for gaso RAY: And finally, you want to be sure that the bottle doesn't say

extreme climates. Most cars use a

multiviscosity oil like 5W-30 all

year round (which performs like

a 5-weight oil in cold weather.

and a 30-weight oil in hot weath-

er), but check your manual to be

mance level. API changes the rat-

ings as standards improve, and

you want to be sure you're getting

the latest and greatest additives

and technolo-

gy. Currently,

SI." is th

highest-rated

TOM: Then check the perfor-

Jacki, because your co-worker is about to collect. She's certainly more correct about oil changes something like "may contain small pieces of dinosaur bones." RAY: Motor oils are incredibly That would suggest that it hasn't similar. And even the same brands sometimes alter their forbeen in the ground long enough. TOM: You can change your oil

every 3.000 miles if you're really particular, but we recommend changing it every 5.000 miles at most. Today's oil is good enough to easily go more than 5,000 miles. So if you change it more often, vou're just wasting vour money and creating a disposal

RAY. Right Other than using it on his hair and in his salad, my brother can't figure out what to do with all of our used oil.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of cars.com on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features

# **Reroute your career!**

#### Author: Risks could save you from breaking point

BY CAROL KLEIMAN Chicago Tribuni

From 1995 to 1998, when Mary Lou Quinlan was chief executive officer of a major advertising agency, she used to dream about breaking a leg. Today, Quinlan, 51, is founder and CEO of Just Woman, a New York-based marketing consulting firm — and she's not a masochist: She simply used to fantasize about a way to get a break from the "cutthroat" ad world and her demand-

ing job.
"My work schedule had gotten out of control and My work schedule had gotten out or comfor and I didn't have a life," said Quinlan, who supervised a staff of 400 people and earned in the six figures. "I was working I5-hour days and traveling a lot — I even took off my heels and ran barefoot through an airport to make a flight — and I was over elmed. I was a human FedEx package

And she's not alone. "According to my re-earch, almost seven in 10 people who make \$40,000 or more a year fantasize about taking at least several months off, and one in five 35- to 40-year-olds fantasize about it daily," said Quin lan, who has an MBA and who has also worked in public relations and in fund raising. She quotes this statistic in her new book, "Time Off for Good Behavior: How Hardworking Women Can Take a Break and Change Their Lives." In 1998, Quinlan, who is married to Joe Quin-

lan, an independent television producer, asked for five weeks off to focus on herself.

"I combined my vacation and time due me, so it was paid leave," she said. "I fully expected to re-

The weeks of time she claimed for herself were etter than healing from a broken leg: "I lived my life for the first time," said Quinlan, "I took walks in my neighborhood, I met friends for lunch, I took salsa lessons, I kept a journal — and the big thing was that I was relaxed and thought about my life for the first time. Did I have a life? No, I and create strategies for companies that wanted to build their business with female customers. She also wanted to write and give talks and be in

"I went back to work and quit the first day," Quinlan said. "I couldn't got back to that life after I once had seen the other side of the fence. It opened my eyes to what life can be."

Fortunately, the agency's holding company liked her idea and provided funding for Just Ask a Woman, which she started in 1999 and bought in 2002. The marketing firm has three employees and, she says, "is very profitable." She works nor mal hours and has reduced her travel

Because she at first remained under the aegis of her employer, Quinlan's leaving her job was not a financial hardship and her benefits were maintained. But she does has specific advice for others who must take a break before they break.

"Don't do it just on the spur of the moment," the executive advised. "Plan ahead. Figure out how much time you'll need. Make a financial plan, an escape hatch to bide you over in case your leave is unpaid. Get support from friends and family who might pitch in on child care, if you need it, and give you space and time to get a rest for the first time in your life."

Then, negotiate with your boss for what you need, she adds.

"Suggest how work might be covered in your absence. Discuss your plans to return to work and assure them you will. If you're really miserable you should just quit. Don't lie.'

ble you should just quit. Don't he."
And use your time off wisely, as she did. "Re-fleet," Quinlan urged. "Start to draw some bound-aries at work so that you have time for yourself, too." The executive believes it is possible to reduce stress by setting a new schedule at work

"Do something about your situation. It's scary to take the risk of a leave of absence, but the alter-

# +4.94 +37.71 +27.77 +11.58 +20.77 +4.95 +7.40

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

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| Name                       | Vol (00)        | Last             | Chg                           | Name               | Vol (00) | Last                    | Chg      | Name                     | Vol (00)                | Last                | Chg                      |
| ExxonMbl                   | 679131          | 60.79            | -2.31                         | SPDR               | 717150   | 120.97                  | -1.36    | Nasd100Tr                |                         | 37.57               | 11                       |
| Lucent                     | 620901          | 2.96             | 09                            | SemiHTr            | 252855   | 34.06                   | +.08     | Cisco                    | 800578                  | 18.53               | +.41                     |
| Elan                       | 480344          | 7.88             | +.75                          | SP Engy            | 154031   | 43.33                   | -1.23    | JDS Uniph                | 765764                  | 1.95                | 05                       |
| TimeWarn                   | 232327          | 17.53            | 10                            |                    | 111272   | 125.71                  | -1.44    | Intel                    | 637202                  | 24.84               | +.04                     |
| Pfizer                     | 217279          | 26.74            | 02                            | iShlapan           | 86128    | 10.95                   | +.04     | Microsoft                | 607061                  | 25.31               | 09                       |
| Textrest                   | 200070          | 26.64            | +.30                          | SP Fncl<br>OilSvHT | 67673    | 29.78                   | 37       | AppleC s                 | 470761                  | 39.35               | -1.18                    |
| Crompton                   | 191705          | 15.31            | +1.85                         |                    | 64021    | 96.10                   | -2.44    |                          | 374502                  | 13.35               | 27                       |
| JPMorgCh                   | 176112          | 36.47            | 47                            |                    | 50458    | 108.04                  | -1.12    | SiriusS                  | 365581                  | 5.60                | 20                       |
| GenElec                    | 155362          | 35.74            | 32                            | BemaGold           |          | 3.15                    | +.11     | SunMicro                 | 315194                  | 4.36                | 01                       |
| ISE n                      | 153782          | 30.40            |                               | SP Util            | 39443    | 29.19                   | 53       | ApidMati                 | 278291                  | 16.66               | 16                       |
|                            |                 | _                | _                             |                    |          | _                       | _        |                          |                         | _                   | _                        |

| KEY DEFENSE STOCKS  |  |  |  |   |  | KEY MUTUAL FUNDS   |  |   |   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|---|--|--|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| Name  | Div  | PE   | Last   | Chg   | YTD<br>%Chg  | Name   | NAV  | Chg.  | YTL<br>%Ret                               |  |  |  |
| Alliast Technosystem<br>Armor Holdings<br>Boeing Boeing Boeing<br>Computer Sciences<br>Engineered Sup Sys<br>Gesteral Dynamics<br>Gesteral Dynamics<br>Gesteral Dynamics<br>Hallibut Deckton<br>Hallibut De | <br>1.00<br>.07<br>1.60<br>.88<br>.50<br>.48<br>.83<br>.50<br>1.00<br>.92<br>.80<br>.66<br>.10<br>1.40<br>1.76 | 18<br>17<br>25<br>14<br>19<br>18<br>22<br>23<br>22<br>21<br>18<br>42<br>23<br>32<br>25<br>30<br>18 | 73.22<br>41.26<br>57.75<br>44.40<br>55.63<br>108.66<br>35.74<br>42.13<br>67.86<br>38.12<br>75.82<br>60.54<br>54.25<br>39.06<br>52.96<br>52.96<br>77.68<br>100.54 | -71<br>-26<br>-34<br>-35<br>-32<br>-32<br>-12<br>-12<br>-13<br>-11<br>-71<br>-71<br>-71<br>-71<br>-71<br>-71<br>-71<br>-71<br>-71 | +12.0<br>-12.3<br>+11.6<br>-21.2<br>-6.1<br>+3.9<br>-2.1<br>+7.4<br>+9.8<br>+7.7<br>+3.5<br>-2.1<br>+21.0<br>-13.4<br>+8.2<br>+5.3 | Fieldly Insect: Coolac Fieldly Insect: Coolac Fieldly Insect: Coolac Fieldly Insect: Coolac Americ Cectary Inc Ultra Americ Cectary Inc Ultra Fieldly Insect: A Migration Fieldly Insect: A Migration Fieldly Insect: A Migration Fieldly Insect: A Migration Fieldly Insect: Coolac Fieldly Advisor T: Gropp' Fieldly Advisor T: Corolac Advisor Fieldly Advisor T: Oriestal Lard Advisor Fieldly Advisor S: Ultra Fieldly Advi | 37.94<br>53.60<br>28.82<br>42.83<br>19.52<br>16.13<br>34.07<br>22.68<br>11.02<br>36.36<br>30.32<br>28.59<br>21.97<br>12.96<br>45.87<br>18.22<br>15.38<br>12.89<br>19.95<br>13.11 | -35 -43 -24 -23 -36 -32 -21 -06 -02 -29 -34 -11 -01 -03 -06 -02 -09 -03 -13 -14 -01 -03 -06 -03 | 40 42 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 |  |  |  |

#### EXCHANGE RATES

| EXCITATION TRAILS                        |
|--|
| Military rates                           |
| Euro costs\$1.3772<br>Dollar buys€0.7261 |
| Dollar buys £0.7261                      |
| British pound\$1.97                      |
| Japanese ven (March 11)102.00            |
| South Korean won (March 10)977,00        |
| Commercial rates                         |
| Pahrain (Dinar) 0.27600                  |
| British nound \$1 9269                   |
| Bahrain (Dinar)                          |
| Denmark (Krone)5.24                      |
| Egypt (Pound)5.785                       |
| Egypt (Pound)                            |
| EUro                                     |
| Hong Kong (Dollar)7.7994                 |
| Hungary (Forint)179.96                   |
| Iceland (Krona)59.185                    |
| Israel (Shekel)4.2931                    |
| Japan (Yen)103.85                        |
| Kuwait (Dinar)0.29203                    |
| Norway (Krone)5.75                       |
| Philippines (Peso) 54.30                 |

Salou Ariana (Ivga) - 1.50
South Korea (Ivga

#### PRECIOUS METALS

#### INTEREST RATES

| Prime rate                        | -5  |
|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Discount rate                     | 3   |
| Federal funds market rate         | 2   |
| 3-month bill                      |     |
| 30-year bond                      | 4   |
| Sources: The Associated Press, Bi | ank |

# ents and Sensibility Money tip of the day

#### Reviewing credit reports

NEW YORK - You should check your credit report at least once a year, but many Americans don't. In fact, far too many adults have never reviewed a credit report, which consists of all your current lines of credit and loans, as well as black marks such as late payments and overdraft charges.

According to a survey by Ex-perian and The Gallup Organization of 2,007 randomly selected adults, 48 percent of Americans have never checked their credit report.

Checking your credit report is vital for your financial success. Your credit file can reveal poor credit decisions - late payments and such - that can pre vent you from getting a lender's best interest rates when you invest in a mortgage or take personal, business or auto loan.

Reviewing your report can also help you determine if you've been a victim of identity theft — you'll know if any unau-thorized accounts have been opened in your name.

Under the Fair and Accurate

Credit Transactions Act, all U.S residents are — or will be — allowed one free credit report per

The FACT Act is phasing in the one free report per year across the nation.

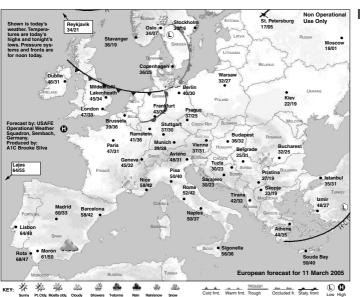
Thus far, people living in the following states are eligible: Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Inrado, rawan, toano, innois, in-diana, Iowa, Kanasa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washing-ton, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

The remaining states will phase in as follows:

June 1: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Lou-isiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and

Sept. 1: Connecticut, Dela-ware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jer-sey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Ver-mont, Virginia and West Virginia.

For a copy of your free credit report, call 1-877-322-8228 or www.annualcreditreport.com.



#### **EUROPEAN FORECAST**

Benelux: Cloudy with rainshowers Highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the mid to upper 40s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 30s.

France: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with

isolated morning rainshowers. Highs in the upper 40s to upper 50s. Northern Germany: Cloudy with iso-lated rain and snowshowers. Highs

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with rain and snowshowers. Highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s. Hungary: Cloudy with rain and snow-showers. Highs in the mid to upper

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy. Highs in the upper 40s to lower 50s. Southern Italy: Partly to mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the lower to mid 50s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Saturday lows in the upper teens to mid 20s.

Norway: Cloudy with rain and snow-showers. Highs in the mid 30s. Saturday lows in the upper single digits to upper teens.

Portugal, Spain: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 50s to upper 60s. In the north, Saturday lows in the lower 30s to lower 40s. In the south, Saturday lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Turkey: Mostly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rain, snowshowers and thunderstorms. In the north and inland, highs in the lower to mid 30s with nighs in the lower to mid 30s with Saturday lows in the lower 20s to lower 30s. In the south and east, highs in the upper 40s to mid 50s with Saturday lows in the upper 20s to mid 30s. to mid 30s

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home

opage at: https://ows.sembach.af.mil http://ows.public.sembach.af.mil

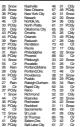


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Mazar-e-Sharif





Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.



PAGE 20 · STARS AND S

#### Sin tax proposed

MO JEFFERSON CITY
—In the eyes of one
Missouri legislator, the
Show-Me State needs to
tone down its image — as
far as the adult entertainment industry is concerned.

"Travelers in our state are being sent a signal that Missouri is a porn-friendly state,"

said State Sen. Matt Bartle. To combat that, Bartle has sponsored a measure for a sin tax. The proposal cleared the state Senate with little debate. The legis-

lation needs another vote to move to the House.

Under the bill, tipping strippers

Under the bill, tipping strippers would be illegal, as would any physical contact between exotic dancers and their customers. Total nucity would be banned, and no one under 21 could work in such businesses.

nesses.
The legislation also would impose a \$5 per customer charge for sexually oriented businesses, from strip clubs to adult bookstores, and a 20 percent tax on revenues. The provisions are similar to what casinos in the state already must pay.

Bartle, a Republican, said the restrictions and taxes are necessary to combat problems such as prostitution, juvenile delinquency and declining property values.

#### High school to be closed

DC WASHINGTON — Cardozo High School will be closed again because of the third mercury spill since Feb. 23. Cardozo students will be bused to the University of the District of Columbia to attend classes. The most recent mercury spill turned up last weekend. Officials said cleaning up the latest spill will take between three and five days.

#### **Employees to get bonuses**

ME FREEPORT — About 4,700 LL. Bean employees will receive bonuses totaling 12.5 percent of their annual base salaries after the company announced record sales of \$1.4 billion for fiscal 2004. An additional \$5.600 seasonal workers will get \$150 bonus-

The privately held Bean said sales increased 9 percent from 2003.

#### Shark kills tank mate

CA MONTEREY — The Monterey Aquarium's popular great white shark is now a kill-er, having taken down one of its Outer Bay tank-mates two weeks ago and inflicting a 5-inch gash in the tail of another soupfin shark this week.

But aquarium officials believe the 88-pound, well-fed white shark wasn't hunting its neighbors only reflexively chomping when it was startled by an accidental collision with the slower-swimming sharks.

There are no plans to move the female great white, although officials may relocate two remaining soupfin sharks to avoid potential clashes in the million-gallon tank.

clashes in the million-gallon tank.
"The white shark and the soupfins are tending to sort of run into one another," said Randy Kochevar, science communication manager for the aquarium. "You have two animals trying to occupy the same space with some unfortunate consequences."

The newest attack and the death



of a similar shark Feb. 23 — which was found with a two-foot chunk of its tail missing — occurred before the aquarium opened for visitors, whose numbers have jumped 30 percent since the great white shark arrived in September after it was accidentally netted by fisherman in Southern California.

#### Toddler survives alone

HOUSTON — A 2-year-old boy survived for up to two days on pancake syrup and onions after his caretaker died in their home, police said.

The boy was found after a relative of Gladie Mae Johnson, 64, became concerned because she hadn't heard from her.

When the relative knocked on the door of Johnson's home, she heard knocking back from inside. She entered through an unlocked back door and found the boy and Johnson's body.

Johnson's body.
Johnson was last seen alive on
Friday, Houston Police Department Sgt. Paul Motard said. She apparently died of natural causes.

Investigators found an open and nearly empty container of pancake syrup on the floor. Some onions also were found lying near Johnson's body.

Johnson was a friend of the boy's family and had been caring for him since last year, when his mother went to prison, Child Protective Services spokeswoman Estella Olguin said.

#### Manatees found dead

FL NAPLES—At least 16 West Indian manatees have died in southwest Florida, apparently from a red tide outbreak that's



Disappearing act Vehicles cross the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco in fog.

drifted offshore for several weeks.

So far, this episode hasn't escalated to the level of major red tide mortality events in recent years. During a particularly bad outbreak in 1996, more than 150 manatees died from the toxic

bloom.

The year 2003 saw nearly 100 mortalities that were blamed on red tide.

State biologist Andy Garrett, however, said this latest event looks familiar.

"The pace we're on right now would be on pace with some of the bigger events," Garrett said. "Having several animals picked up over the course of a few days is similar to the bigger events."

Red tide is a naturally occurring toxin that's fed by nutrients.

Large blooms occur regularly off the southwest Florida coast and can cause widespread deaths of marine creatures and respiratory problems in humans.

Garrett said the number of calls from boaters reporting dead manatees has ebbed since the weekend. Rainy and chilly weather probably kept many boaters off the water lately, Garrett said.

Red tide typically forms offshore and gets tossed around the Gulf of Mexico by currents and steering winds. Winter winds typically prevail from the east. Onshore breezes and winter fronts, however, can send the toxic outbreaks inshore.

#### Gorilla dies at Erie

PA ERIE — A gorilla believed to be the longest living of its kind in captivity has died of old age. He was 49.

Rudy died in his sleep at the Erie Zoo, said zoo spokesman Scott Mitchell.

Captive gorillas can begin to have health problems in their late 20s to early 30s, Mitchell said. Rudy's appetite had been declining recently, he said.

Rudy was captured in Africa as a baby. He arrived at the Erie Zoo in 1987 after living at zoos in St. Louis, Los Angeles and Cleveland.

Rudy was believed by the International Species Information System, which keeps records on captive animals, to be the oldest captive lowland gorilla in the world.

#### Deputy suspended

MN BEMIDJI — An off-duty sheriff's deputy who used a cell phone to make audiovisual recordings of three men having sex with an 18-year-old woman at a party will be suspended for two weeks without pay and reassigned, an official said.

An investigation of the Sept. 19

incident found that Beltrami County deputy Jeffrey Andersen engaged in "conduct unbecoming an officer," Sheriff Keith Winger said.

Three men were charged with felony criminal sexual conduct after the woman told police that they gang-raped her. She said one of them gave her a drink that ren-

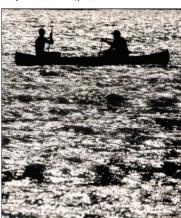
dered her semiconscious.

Andersen, 25, was suspended with pay after he admitted using a cell phone to record the incident.

A special prosecutor dismissed the rape charges in December, saying that there wasn't evidence of a date-rape drug. The same prosecutor declined to bring charges against Andersen, saying his conduct couldn't be proven criminal.



White-out results in pileup A white-out created by a caused a multi-whicle pileup on U.S. 131 near Grand Rapids, Mich. A sudden snow squall caused a series of chain-reaction accidents involving 85 to 90 whicles on a western Michigan highway that killed one motorist and injured at least 34 others, nolice said.



Taking a break

Patrick Allred, left, and Jim Bell paddle their canoe across Kirby Lake in Abilene, Texas. The two high school juniors were enjoying the sunshine during their spring break



All the world's a snowflake

Mike Whitney, 19, of Auburn, Maine, walks past a snowflake design on the front of a downtown business in Lewiston, Maine.



A blanket of gold Sightseers walk through a field of wildflowers in Death Valley, Calif. Heavy winter rains have led to an explosion of wildflow ers throughout the usually barren landscape.



Willing to Work

Jim White, left, and Andrew Boney
carry snow shovels while walking
along Route 229 in Bristol, Conn.
They were looking for a way to make
a few bucks off the snow storm.



What a mess! Workers look over the scene of a derailment in Industry, Calif. The freight train derailed spilling a combustible liquid and prompting the evacuation of 11 businesses from a nearby strip mall, authorities said. No injuries were reported.

#### Tread gives up crooks

AR FORT SMITH — Police in Fort Smith got to the bottom of a burglary at city offices by peering into the criminal sole.

Apparently, footprints left by the

hypacinity, tooprinis errby the burglars came from shoes popular with skateboarders. Officers discovered that only one store in Fort Smith sold the shoes, and the shoe with the unique tread was sold to only a handful of customers.

That led police to Christopher Calvin and Eric Skelton, both 23.

The men were arrested last week on suspicion of commercial burglary and theft of property. The duo work together at a mall restaurant near the store that sold the shoes.

City officials said about \$3,000

worth of computers and other equipment was taken.

According to authorities, the burglars apparently climbed atop a vacant building, worked their way to the ledge along the third floor of another building that housed city offices and entered through an unlocked window.

#### First female president

IM NEW ORLEANS — Marvalcost and the property of the concost as pillard University's first woman president. She will officially begin July 1 as the ninth president of Dillard, a private, predominantly black school associated with the United Church of Christ. Hughes has been president at California State University' Stanislaus campus since 1994.

#### License-revoking review

MN ST. PAUL — The Minnesota Supreme Court is considering the constitutionality of a law allowing authorities to revoke the driver's licenses of people suspected of driving drunk.

The implied consent law allows license revocation before a judge hears the case. More than 30,000 people a year lose their licenses in Minnesota because of suspected drunk driving.

#### **Boater rescued safely**

AUSTIN — A boater got the ride of his life when he fell overboard and was swept through a floodgate of a dam.

Authorities said the man and a female companion were boating on Lake Austin when the boat's motor quit and the current carried the boat up against the Tom Miller Dam.

A security guard atop the dam threw a rope to the woman and guided her to a rescue boat, but Dirk Hoekstra fell into the water.

"A second later is when my feet got sucked in by the water gate and that's when I went through," Hoekstra told CNN.

He said he managed to take a good breath before he went under. "It was twisting me around like a rag doll and threw my arms all

rag doll and threw my arms all over the place and it just keeps flipping me from whirlpool to whirlpool," Hoekstra said. He said he surfaced a quarter- to

He said he surfaced a quarter- to a half-mile downstream from the dam, made his way to a house on shore and called 911.

#### Father shoots daughter

VIRGINIA BEACH — A father was charged with acci-

dentally shooting his 2-year-old daughter while playing with a gun, police said.

Jered Dean Grisham, 23, was arrested and charged with felony child endangerment and reckless handling of a firearm, said Rene Ball, a police spokeswoman.

Police believe Grisham was spinning the gun on his finger when it went off, grazing his daughter's legs. She was treated at a hospital and released.

Grisham is being held in jail without bond.

#### School looks into speech

PUEBLO — Officials at Colorado State University-Pueblo are investigating a student's complaint that a professor called Mexicans "lazy and bitter" during a classroom tirade against illegal immigrants.

Two students claimed tenured anthropology professor Dan Forsyth made the comment in a speech March 3, The Pueblo Chieftain reported. According to the students. For-

According to the students, Forsyth allegedly said illegal immigrants and Mexicans have filled up U.S. prisons and "raped the system," the paper reported.

Forsyth denied the allegations, saying he only reminded students after class about a campus appearance by Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., an outspoken advocate for tighter immigration controls.

#### City eyes cable car fares

CA SAN FRANCISCO — A ride on a historic cable car is considered a must-do for tourists visiting the City by the Bay, like a tour of Alcatraz prison or a walk across the Golden Gate Bridge.
But the ride could soon cost them a couple extra bucks.

The board that oversees city transportation voted last week to raise the price of a cable car ride from \$3 to \$5, reasoning that tourists use cable cars far more than

residents. The fare for buses, which many residents ride, would go up only a quarter. The proposal must still be approved by Mayor Gavin Newsom, who wants to find another way to

raise funds, and the Board of Supervisors.

The cable cars "shouldn't be a way for us to make money, but part

way for us to make money, but part of the allure and charm of the city," Newsom said.

#### No Sunday car sales

ME AUGUSTA — A bill that would allow Maine car dealers to sell vehicles on Sundays is dead for this session.

The Legislature's Business, Research and Economic Development Committee sent word to the House that it voted unanimously to kill the bill.

Rep. Nancy Smith, D-Monmouth, a committee co-chair, said dealers didn't support the idea and consumers expressed a desire to have one day a week to car shop without having salesmen around.

It is now illegal for dealers to sell cars, trucks or motorcycles on Sunday.

The only person to testify in favor of the bill was its sponsor, Rep. Kenneth Lindell, R-Frankfort, who said he wanted to reduce state regulation over business and give families an option to car shop on Sunday.

Stories and photos from wire services

|                | AFRTS Television Schedule Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at http://myafn.dodmedia.cad.mil/ |   |  |   |                               |   |   |   |  |
|----------------|--|---|--|---|-------------------------------|---|---|---|--|
|                | (AFN-FAMILY)   | (AFN-MOVIE)   | (AFN-EUROPE)   | (AFN-KOREA)                                       | (AFN-NEWS)                    | (AFN-SPORTS)  | (SPECTRUM)  | (AFN-PACIFIC)                                     |  |
| 9:00           | Stanley  | Movie *** "Having Our   | Dr. Phil   | Jeopardy!   | Hardball With Chris Matthews  | College Basketball Pac-10<br>Tournament Quarterfinal        | 30-Minute Meals                                   | Jeopardy!   |  |
| 9:30           | Sagwa-Siamese Cat  | Say: The Delany Sisters' First<br>100 Years" (1999, Drama) Dia-   | (9:46) Oprah Winfrey   | Headline News<br>ESPNews                          | The O'Reilly Factor           | Teams TBA. From Staples Cen-                                | Easy Entertaining-Chiarello<br>Decorating Cents   | Headline News<br>ESPNews                          |  |
| 10:00          | Arthur (EI)<br>Reading Rainbow (EI)  | hann Carroll, Ruby Dee.   | (9:46) Opran Wintrey<br>(:35) Guiding Light                    | Advisory Block                                    | Tine O'Relliy Factor          | ter in Los Angeles. (Taped)                                 | The Look for Less                                 | Pacific Report                                    |  |
| 11:00          | Sagwa-Siamese Cat  | (10:48) Movie + + + x "Alien"                                     | (.55) dululing Eight   | The O.C. "The Chrismukkah                         | Nightline                     | College Basketball Pac-10                                   | E! News Live                                      | The O.C. "The Chrismukkah                         |  |
| 11:30          | Stanley  | (1979) Tom Skerritt, Yaphet Kot-                                  | (:17) General Hospital   | That Almost Wasn't"                               | Nightly Business Report       | Tournament Quarterfinal                                     | The King of Queens                                | That Almost Wasn't"                               |  |
| 12:00          | Dora the Explorer  | to. An outer-space stowaway at-<br>tacks interstellar miners.     | Headline News  | Survivor: Palau                                   | Primetime Thursday            | Teams TBA. From Staples Cen-<br>ter in Los Angeles. (Taped) | That '70s Show                                    | Survivor: Palau                                   |  |
| 12:30          | The Wiggles "Foodman"  |   | Judge Judy   |   |                               |   | Girlfriends                                       |   |  |
| 13:00          | Bob the Builder<br>Dragon Tales (EI)   | Movie * * * "Pretty Woman"<br>(1990) Richard Gere, An execu-      | Today Mel Brooks; the cast of<br>"All Shook Up"; whole grains. | The Apprentice                                    | American Morning              | SportsCenter  | Charmed "Hell Hath No Fury"                       | The Apprentice                                    |  |
| 13:30          | Blue's Clues "Signs" (EI)  | tive plays Pygmalion to a young                                   | rai ondox op , midio giana.                                    | Pacific Report                                    |                               | College Basketball ACC Tour-                                | Strong Medicine                                   | Pacific Report                                    |  |
| 14:00          | Barney & Friends (EI)  | streetwalker.   |  | The Tonight Show With Jay                         |                               | nament Opening Round  | outing inculation                                 | The Tonight Show With Jay                         |  |
| 15:00          | Funniest Home Videos   | (:13) Movie *** "The Break-                                       | Teacher's Pet  | Leno  |                               | Teams TBA. From the MCI<br>Center in Washington, D.C.       | Any Day Now "The Dust of                          | Leno  |  |
| 15:30          | Growing Pains  | fast Club" (1985, Comedy-Dra-<br>ma) Emilio Estevez, Molly Ring-  | What's New Scooby-Doo?   | Late Show With David Letter-                      |                               | (Taped)   | Life"   | Late Show With David Letter-<br>man               |  |
| 16:00          | Pokémon "Shell Shock"<br>Yu-Gi-Oh!   | wald, Anthony Michael Hall.                                       | Ozzy & Drix "Oh, My Dog"<br>Codename: Kids Next Door           | man<br>The Late Late Show With                    | FOX News                      |   | Third Watch "Adam 55-3"                           | man<br>The Late Late Show With                    |  |
| 16:30<br>17:00 | Yu-Gi-Oh!<br>Doug "Doug's New School"  | Yasmine Bleeth Revealed   | Jeopardy!  | The Late Late Show With<br>Craig Ferguson         | FOX News                      | SportsCenter  | Law & Order "School Daze"                         | The Late Late Show With<br>Craig Ferguson         |  |
| 17:00          | The Wild Thornberrys   | lastilile Dicetii Nevealeu  | Headline News  | Dennis Miller                                     | T OX News                     | Sportsoenier  | Law & Order Scribbi Daze                          | Dennis Miller                                     |  |
| 18:00          | The Fairly OddParents  | Hollywood Backstories   | ESPNews  |   | FOX News                      | College Basketball Big Ten                                  | The Simpsons                                      |   |  |
| 18:30          | Rugrats "Weaning Tommy"  | Entertainment Tonight   | AFN Evening News   | Countdown With Keith Olber-                       |                               | Tournament Quarterfinal                                     | Everybody Loves Raymond                           | Countdown With Keith Olber-                       |  |
| 19:00          | The Fairly OddParents  | Movie ** "The Three<br>Stooges" (2000, Biography)                 | The O.C. "The Chrismukkah<br>That Almost Wasn't"               | mann  | Primetime Thursday            | Teams TBA. From the United<br>Center in Chicago. (Live)     | JAG "The One That Got Away"                       | mann  |  |
| 19:30          | Dave the Barbarian<br>Danny Phantom  | Stooges" (2000, Biography)<br>Paul Ben-Victor, Evan Handler.      | That Almost Wasn't' Survivor: Palau                            | Access Hollywood<br>Headline News                 | FOX News                      | College Gamenight   | Boston Public *Chapter Forty-                     | Access Hollywood<br>Headline News                 |  |
| 20:00          | Danny Phantom<br>Drake & Josh  | (:38) Movie ** "Rules of  | ourwivor: Palau  | Headline News<br>Entertainment Studios.com        | rox news                      | College Gamenight College Basketball Conference             | Nine" Chapter Forty-                              | Headline News<br>Entertainment Studios.com        |  |
| 21:00          | Strange Days-Blake Holsey  | Engagement" (2000) Tommy  | The Apprentice   | Good Morning America                              | Studio B With Shepard Smith   | USA Tournament Semifinal                                    | Stephen King's Kingdom                            | Good Morning America                              |  |
| 21:30          | Phil of the Future   | Lee Jones, Samuel L. Jackson.<br>An old friend defends a Marine   |  |   |                               | Teams TBA. From the FedEx Fo-<br>rum in Memohis. Tenn       | Hospital "Goodbye Kiss"                           |   |  |
| 22:00          | Switched!  | an old mend delends a Manne<br>accused of killing civilians.      | Headline News  | 1   |                               |   | Friends (Part 1 of 2)                             | 1   |  |
| 22:30          | Radio Free Roscoe  | 1 -   | The Tonight Show With Jay                                      |   | Your World With Neil Cavuto   | College Basketball Confer-<br>ence USA Tournament Semifi-   | Friends (Part 2 of 2)                             |   |  |
| 23:00          | The Cosby Show   | Movie *** "La Bamba"<br>(1987) Lou Diamond Phillips.              |  | Oobi  | Lester Holt Live              | ence USA lournament Semili-<br>nal Teams TRA (Live)         | Daily Show-Jon Stewart                            | Oobi  |  |
| 23:30          | Home Improvement   | (1807) Edd Diamond Filings.                                       | Late Show-Letterman  | LazyTown "Defeeted"                               |                               |   | Blind Date  | LazyTown "Defeeted"                               |  |
| 00:00          | Davis (Davis Cata Ulia Milah)  | (11:00) Movie * * * "La   | Late Show-Letterman  | SATURDAY, MARCH 12<br>The Fairly OddParents       | Z, 2005<br>Headline News      | College Basketball  | Late Night With Conan                             | The Fairly OddParents                             |  |
| 00:00          | Doug "Doug Gets His Wish"<br>Rocket Power (Part 2 of 3)  | Bamba" (1987) Esai Morales  | Access Hollywood   | Powerpuff Girls!                                  | NBC Nightly News              | SportsCenter  | O'Brien   | Dave the Barbarian                                |  |
| 1:00           | The Fairly OddParents  | (12:50) Movie * * * * "Inva-                                      | The Hot List   | Danny Phantom                                     | ABC World News Tonight        | College Basketball Big East                                 | JAG "The One That Got Away"                       | Danny Phantom                                     |  |
| 1:30           | Rugrats  | sion of the Body Snatchers"<br>(1956, Science Fiction) Kevin      | College Basketball Teams to                                    | Drake & Josh                                      | CBS Evening News              | Tournament Semifinal Teams<br>TBA. From Madison Square      | ,   | Drake & Josh                                      |  |
| 2:00           | The Fairly OddParents  | McCarthy, Dana Wynter.  | Be Announced. (Live)   | The Mummy "The Maze"                              | The NewsHour With Jim         | Garden in New York. (Live)                                  | Boston Public "Chapter Forty-<br>Nine"            | Unfabulous "The Party"                            |  |
| 2:30           | Dave the Barbarian   |   |  | Degrassi: Next                                    | Lehrer                        |   | THING   | Switched!   |  |
| 3:00           | Danny Phantom<br>Drake & Josh  | Movie ** "The Three<br>Stooges" (2000, Biography)                 | College Basketball Teams to                                    | Radio Free Roscoe<br>American Adventurer          | Hannity & Colmes              | SportsCenter<br>College Basketball Big East                 | Stephen King's Kingdom<br>Hospital "Goodbye Kiss" | Radio Free Roscoe<br>American Adventurer          |  |
| 4:00           | Strange Days-Blake Holsey  | Paul Ben-Victor, Evan Handler.                                    | Be Announced. (Live)   | NBA Basketball Los Angeles                        | The Fox Report With Shepard   | Tournament Semifinal Teams                                  | Friends (Part 1 of 2)                             | NBA Basketball Los Angeles                        |  |
| 4:30           | Phil of the Future   | (:38) Movie ★★% "Rules of   |  | Clippers at Sacramento Kings.                     | Smith                         | TBA. From Madison Square<br>Garden in New York. (Live)      | Friends (Part 2 of 2)                             | Clippers at Sacramento Kings.                     |  |
| 5:00           | Sesame Street (EI)   | Engagement" (2000) Tommy  |  | From ARCO Arena in Sacra-<br>mento, Calif. (Live) | Lou Dobbs Tonight             |   | Breathingspace Yoga                               | From ARCO Arena in Sacra-<br>mento, Calif. (Live) |  |
| 5:30           |  | Lee Jones, Samuel L. Jackson.<br>An old friend defends a Marine   | ESPNews  | inono, oun. (Evo)                                 |                               | SportsCenter  | Caribbean Workout                                 | monto, oun. (Dire)                                |  |
| 6:00           | Barney & Friends (EI)  | accused of killing civilians.                                     | CBS Evening News   |   | Larry King Live               | College Basketball Mountain<br>West Tournament Semifinal    | Body Shaping                                      |   |  |
| 6:30<br>7:00   | Clifford the Big Red Dog (EI)<br>Planet's Funniest Animals   | Movie ** * "Back to the Fu-                                       | NBC Nightly News   | ESPNews<br>To Be Announced                        | NewsNight With Aaron Brown    | Teams TBA. From The Pepsi                                   | Every Woman<br>Beautiful Homes-Estates            | ESPNews<br>To Be Announced                        |  |
| 7:00           | Amazing Animal Videos  | ture Part III" (1990, Adventure)                                  | LazyTown 'Defeeted'  | To be Attitudiced                                 | Newsingin with Auton Brown    | Center in Denver. (Live)                                    | Curb Appeal                                       | TO DE ATITIOURCEU                                 |  |
| 8:00           | Lilo & Stitch "Houdini"  | Michael J. Fox, Christopher<br>Lloyd, Mary Steenburgen.           | The Fairly OddParents  | Your Total Health                                 | BET Nightly News              | SportsCenter  | Landscapers' Challenge                            | Your Total Health                                 |  |
| 8:30           | Teamo Supremo (EI)   |   | Dave the Barbarian   | Navy/Marine Corps News                            | Tavis Smiley                  |   | Weekend Warriors                                  | Navy/Marine Corps News                            |  |
| 9:00           | Static Shock   | (:11) Movie ** "Weird Sci-<br>ence" (1985, Comedy) Antho-         | Danny Phantom  | Access Hollywood                                  | Hardball With Chris Matthews  | Sports  | Clean House                                       | Access Hollywood                                  |  |
| 9:30           | Winx Club "Secret Guardian"<br>Teen Titans "Sisters"   | ny Michael Hall, Kelly LeBrock,                                   | Drake & Josh<br>Unfabulous "The Party"                         | Headline News                                     | The O'Reilly Factor           |   | BBQ With Bobby Flay                               | Headline News                                     |  |
| 10:00          | Power Rangers DinoThunder  | llan Mitchell-Smith.  | Switched!  | ESPNews   | Tine O'Relliy Factor          |   | \$40-a-Day  | ESPNews   |  |
| 11:00          | Dragonball GT  | Movie * * "She's All That"  | Focus on the Force   | George Lopez                                      | Nightline                     |   | Jackie Collins Presents                           | According to Jim                                  |  |
| 11:30          | Justice League   | (1999, Comedy) Freddie Prinze                                     | American Adventurer  | Half & Half                                       | 1                             | SportsCenter  | 1   | Half & Half                                       |  |
| 12:00          | Teen Kids News (EI)  | Jr., Rachael Leigh Cook.  | Access Hollywood   | Meet My Folks "The Dappers"                       | Dateline NBC                  | 1   | 101 Most Unforgettable SNL                        | Wife Swap "Aguirre/Ray"                           |  |
| 12:30          | Cyberchase (EI)  | (:44) Movie ** "A Knight's<br>Tale" (2001, Adventure) Heath       | - n - t  | (Part 1 of 2)                                     | AURI A. L                     | 0   | Moments   |   |  |
| 13:00          | Trading Space: Boy-Girl  | Ledger, Mark Addy. A peasant                                      | To Be Announced  | Law & Order "Coming Down<br>Hard"                 | CNN Saturday Morning          | Sports  | Biography "Charles Dickens"                       | Law & Order "Coming Down<br>Hard"                 |  |
| 13:30<br>14:00 | Strange Days-Blake Holsey<br>Planet's Funniest Animals   | poses as a knight for a shot at                                   | According to Jim   | Headline News                                     | Economy Watch                 |   | Austin City Limits "John Foger-                   | Headline News                                     |  |
| 14:00          | Wild America   | jousting glory.   | Half & Half  | Saturday Night Live                               | Loonolly Hatel                |   | ty' Musician John Fogerty.                        | Saturday Night Live                               |  |
| 15:00          | Discovery Kids Ultimate<br>Guide to the Awesome  | (2:55) Movie ** "The Pro-<br>fessional" (1994) Jean Reno,         | Wife Swap "Aguirre/Ray"  | 1 .,  | CNN Saturday Morning          | SportsCenter  | Star Trek: Voyager "Tattoo"                       | 1 -,,   |  |
| 15:30          |  | fessional" (1994) Jean Reno,<br>Gary Oldman, A hit man takes      |  |   | Open House                    |   |   |   |  |
| 16:00          | Hercules: The Legendary  | Gary Oldman. A hit man takes<br>an orphan girl under his wing.    | Law & Order "Coming Down<br>Hard"                              | Kickin' It Latest in music and                    | Bulls and Bears               | SportsCenter  | Ripley's Believe It or Not                        | Kickin' It Latest in music and                    |  |
| 16:30          | Journeys "Heedless Hearts"   |   | Hard'<br>Headline News   | trends. The Entertainers                          | Cavuto on Business            | Callana CamaDay   | Fear Factor                                       | trends. The Entertainers                          |  |
| 17:00          | Doug "Doug Grows Up" (EI) The Wild Thornberrys   | Movie ** * "Misery" (1990,<br>Suspense) James Caan, Kathy         | Navy/Marine Corps News   | ine citertainers                                  | Forbes<br>Cashin' In          | College GameDay   | rear ractor                                       | THE CHIEFTAINERS                                  |  |
| 18:00          | The Fairly OddParents  | Bates. A psychotic fan holds an                                   | Sports Corps news  | Sports  | CNN Live Saturday             | Sports  | What Not to Wear "John" For-                      | Sports  |  |
| 18:30          | Rugrats  | injured novelist captive.   |  |   |                               |   | mer male dancer.                                  |   |  |
| 19:00          | Movie "Stuck in the Suburbs"   | Movie *** "Secondhand   |  |   | Weekend Live With Tony        | 1   | The Bachelorette                                  | 1   |  |
| 19:30          | (2004, Comedy-Drama) Danielle<br>Panabaker, Brenda Song.   | Lions" (2003) Michael Caine. A<br>teen hears fantastic tales from |  |   | Snow                          |   |   |   |  |
| 20:00          |  | his great-uncles.   |  |   | Wall Street Journal           |   | Tru Calling Tru enters a beauty<br>pageant.       |   |  |
| 20:30          | Movie "The Luck of the Irish"<br>(2001, Fantasy) Ryan Merri-   | l -   | Cd-  | Mandian Nama                                      | Army Newswatch<br>Next at CNN | Canada  |   | Mandline News                                     |  |
| 21:00          | man, Alexis Lopez.   | (:04) Movie *** "Election"<br>(1999) Matthew Broderick. A         | Sports   | Headline News<br>Hour of Power                    | next at CNN                   | Sports  | Strong Medicine "Heartbeats<br>& Deadbeats"       | Headline News<br>Hour of Power                    |  |
| 22:00          | American Idol  | teacher tries to take a student                                   |  | Celebration of Victory                            | FOX News                      |   | Friends   | Celebration of Victory                            |  |
| 22:30          |  | overachiever down a peg.  |  | Coral Ridge Hour                                  |                               |   | Seinfeld "The Seven"                              | Coral Ridge Hour                                  |  |
| 23:00          | American Idol  | Movie * "The One" (2001)  |  | Word in the World                                 | FOX News                      |   | The Real World                                    | Word in the World                                 |  |
| 23:30          | I  | Jet Li, Carla Gugino.   | I  | Cafe Video Christian music.                       | I                             | I   | Punk'd  | Cafe Video Christian music.                       |  |



#### **FACES**

# For Womack, pop worth leaving behind

#### After failed crossover venture, C&W traditionalist happily returns to roots

BY MARIO TARRADELL The Dallas Morning News

few years ago, country traditionalist Lee Ann Womack dolled up and struck a come-hither pose for Matthew Rolston, a fashion photographer known for his shots of stars such as Cyndi Lau-per and Jennifer Lopez. The glamorous picture became the cover of Womack's 2002 album, "Some-thing Worth Leaving Behind." That cover telegraphed a clear change: Lee Ann Womack was going pop

It didn't go well. Womack's next big photo ses sion produced a CD cover that could pass for one of Tammy Wynette's early '70s album jackets. A sheer veil covers her soft blond locks, sweet smile and summery halter-top, lending a golden And again, the message couldn't be more plain: 2005's "There's More Where That Came From" would be a traditional country album — twin fiddles. moaning pedal steel guitars and mandolins; stories of cheating, hard lessons and heartbreak.

When I started making this record, I said I'm gonna have fun, and that's it. I'm not going to worry about does this sound right coming from a woman, or is this too country, or is this intro too long?" says Womack, She's nursing a bowl of oatmeal with butter and brown sugar during a breakfast interview. The Jacksonville. Texas, native was in Dallas for the release of "There's More Where That Came From." "I wanted this record to sound

like where I came from.

Womack is the genre's latest artist to start out traditional, flirt with pop, then hightail it back to country. Her brief detour puts her in good company with icons such as Willie Nelson, Dolly Parton and Loretta Lynn as well as big-selling stars Garth Brooks and LeAnn Rimes.

There's nothing wrong with a little experimentation, of course, as long as you don't lose your artistic identity. Nelson pulled it off with 1982's "Always On My



Lee Ann Womack, who made a name for herself in the country world with her hit "I Hope You Dance," says she "didn't have much fun" during her foray into pop music.

Mind" and especially 1978's col-lection of pop standards, "Star-dust." But Parton had trouble staving focused.

While her 1977 pop foray, "Here You Come Again," succeeded by mixing plenty of Dol-ly's personality with mainstream hooks and melodies, 1988's "Rainbow" bombed because it glossed over her distinctive style.

Sometimes confusing die-hard fans leads to sure failure. Brooks became another char-Chris Gaines, for his doomed pop effort, 1999's "In the Life of Chris Gaines." He left millions of admirers scratching their heads, wondering what he was doing. For Rimes, 2002's "Twisted Angel" seemed more a product of her teenage rebellion than

a legitimate change of musical pace.

Womack's excursion into pop was sparked by the mamm

success of 2000's "I Hope You Dance," a 3-million-selling CD that produced the smash title cut, a hit on the coun-try, pop and adult

contemporary charts. The album was a thoughtfully conceived blend of traditional country base and smoother pop ele-

She felt the sti-

ments

fling pressure of following up such a huge record, so she made herself miser able in the studio recording "Something Worth Leaving Behind." She had pop produc-Matt Serletic (Matchbox Twenty) soup up an alterversion of "Something Worth Leaving Behind," Leaving hoping it would ensure the same mass-appeal of "I

Hope You Dance.

The whole en-deavor sank. "Something Worth Leaving Behind" peaked at No. 20 on Billboard's country singles chart and never crossed over to pop or adult con-

temporary. The album didn't fare much better; it sold barely 300,000 copies, according to Niels en SoundScan

"I didn't have that much fun making 'Something Worth Leaving Behind," she says before taking a sip of coffee. Womack, dressed in blue jeans and a flowery halter-top with a beige shawl, is refreshingly honest.

"Now that I look back on it, because of the success that I had prior, I was so worried that I was gonna not measure up to that, that I over-thought everything on that record. I tried ... to please everybody with that record ... my-self, radio, the listeners, everybody who loved 'Never Again, Again' and everybody who loved 'I Hope You Dance.' And it just didn't work. It backfired

For a while, she wasn't sure she wanted to make another album. It was her label, MCA Nashville, that coaxed her back into the studio.

This time, she was determined to please only one person — herself. And the return to coun-

worked There's Where That Came From" sold a healthy 83,000 copies its first week in stores. The disc's first single, a classic cheating ballad titled "I May Hate Myself in the Morning," sits in the Top

Traditional country music in its pur-est form is a rarity these days: songs characterized by or-ganic musicianship heavy on fiddles and steel guitars; emotional songs painting everyday subjects as univer-

This Came From' "That's my favor-ite kind," says Womack. "I mean, it fires me up. Traditional country is the most beautiful thing in the world. And you know I don't sing country music because I'm not capable of singing other kinds of music. I sing it because I just love

> People ask her why she likes 'sad stuff" so much, she says.

"I have no explanation for why I

#### An interstellar success

Career-achievement prizes? Maybe for your ordinary, down-to-earth directors, not interstellar

filmmaking overlords "Star Wars" cre-

ator George Lucas is receiving a "galactic-achievement award" next week at ShoWest, an annual convention of theater owners in Las Vegas The honor being

presented March 17 comes two months

before the debut of the final installment in Lucas' sci-fi saga, "Star Wars: Episode III Revenge of the Sith," chronicling the transformation of young hero Anakin Sky-walker (Havden Christensen) into the

Lucas

dark lord Darth Vader

"This unique award celebrates the enduring popularity of the 'Star Wars' movies and the enormous impact and influence they have had on audiences and popular culture," Mitch Neuhauser, co-manager of ShoWest, said Tuesday.

"Revenge of the Sith" opens in U.S. theaters on May 19

#### Actress disputes RNC charges

Actress Rosario Dawson says she will fight disorderly conduct and obstruction charges stemming from her arrest during the Republican National Convention last

Dawson 25 was arrested filming the movie "This Revolution," along with direc-tor Stephen Marshall. Authorities said she was wearing two handkerchiefs on her face with only her eyes showing.

A criminal complaint says she refused when ordered by police to move from the 35th Street and Eighth Avenue location, near the site of the GOP convention.

When Marshall tried to show the city film permit to police, he and Dawson were arrested. Dawson refutes the police depart-

ment's claim that she refused to move. A Manhattan criminal court judge Tuesday denied Dawson's request to dismiss the charges and said her trial would begin next week. The New York Post reported

#### Wonder to star at Tiger Jam

Stevie Wonder will have Sin City "Dancing to the Rhythm" when the Grammy winner headlines the upcoming Tiger Jam

The annual benefit concert sponsored by Tiger Woods is scheduled for May 21 at the Mandalay Bay hotel-casino in Las Vegas.

"Stevie Wonder is a music legend, and I'm thrilled he's headlining Tiger Jam VIII," Woods said in a statement Tuesday. "He's very committed to social causes,

which makes him a perfect fit to help raise awareness for the Tiger Woods Learning Center."

Counting Crows also will perform at the concert, which raises more than \$1 million annually for the Tiger Woods Foundation SBC Communications

also is a sponsor. Proceeds from pre-

vious concerts have supported a variety of organizations, including the Boys & Girls Club of Las Vegas and the VH1 Save the

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



44 When I started making this record, I said  $Im \ aonna$ 

have fun, and that's it. ... Iwanted this record to sound like

where I came from. 77

Lee Ann Womack Describing her new CD, "There's More Where

can put on 'A Good Year for the Roses,' crank it up and just ... it

does something to me. It makes me happy. I don't understand what's going on there, but it does."

#### STARS STRIPES, LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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#### Stop the English lessons

It is a sad state of affairs when some officers have nothing better to do than attempt to give English lessons to others via the soldiers' newspaper, Stars and Stripes ("Grade-school errors frequent," letter, March 3).

I, and many like me, couldn't care less what a reflexive pronoun is, let alone what it does. Maybe staff officers allow lower-level commanders to commit signatures flawed documents, because the lower-level officers do not have time to nit-pick every grammatical entry on every document they

They and we, the noncommissioned officers, have more important details to attend to, such as precombat checks, precombat inspections, battle drills, and keeping soldiers alive in a hostile and unforgiving environ-

ment I, for one, have neither the time nor the inclination to peruse everything I write and, believe me. I write a lot of stuff. I type as I speak, as does most of the civilized world. I believe we could all get a lot more done if ev ervone would just do their jobs, and quit worrying about what the rest of the world is writing or saying.

Oh, and by the way, the Close Combat Badge should be made available for all soldiers who have gone "outside the wire" in defense of a country in pursuit of democracv. not just a chosen few.

Please excuse any grammatical errors I may have committed

Master Sgt. Jerry Chambers Mosul. Iraa

#### Americans remembered fondly

From mid-December 2004 to mid-February 2005 the city of Colmar, and surrounding villages in Alsace, France, celebrated the 60th anniversary of their liberation in World War II. My husband, Lt. Col. Timo thy R. Stoy, and I were privileged to attend numerous ceremonies, and at each one we were welcomed with respect and affection. The people in this part of France still remember our veterans and think fondly of

the United States. A truly touching moment occurred at an event in Sigolsheim. The French veterans association Rhine-Danube held a ceremony at the American Monument on Hill 351 above the village to honor the Americans who had fought in Alsace with them. There is a French military cemetery there now, but in December 1944 the hill was the scene of ferocious fighting for both the 36th and 3rd Infantry divisions. My husband laid a wreath with the two American veterans present and delivered the keynote speech. It was a bitterly cold day with a biting wind, almost like the weather 60 years before.

At the reception after the ceremony, as my husband was mingling with the veter ans, one of them, Mr. Cade, came up to him and pressed a small medallion with Washington and Lafavette depicted on the front into his hand. He explained that this medallion had been given to his father in 1917 by the Americans upon their arrival in France during World War I, and that he wanted my husband to have it as a symbol of the con-

#### Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

#### Send your letters to-

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Via fax: [Country code +49] (0) 6155/601395; DSN 349-8395 E-mail: letters@mail.estripes.osd.mil

tinuing friendship between the people of France and the United States. It was such a

touching moment. I would like Stripes readers to know that there are still many people in France who remember the United States fondly and still

like Americans. Army Capt. Monika C.Y. Stoy (retired) Halstenbek, Germany

#### Diversity of opinion appreciated

I am writing in regards to the complaint about Garry Trudeau's "Dooneshury" comic strip (letter, "Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap,' "Feb. 28).

While I found the letter writer's comments nearly as entertaining as I find Trudeau's comic strip, it was still a bit dis turbing to read such comments. The letter writer's anger toward Stars and Stripes for the "left-wing-subcutanepublishing ous-slandering piece-of-crap" comic is misdirected

I applaud Stripes for publishing comics, features, articles and opinion pieces that il-lustrate different points of view. The U.S. military is made up of people from all walks of political and cultural life.

For many people stationed overseas, Stars and Stripes is one of their few sources of news and information. I am sure the letter writer can appreciate diversity of opinion and freedom of press in a place like Iraq. The exchange of ideas and public discourse is critical to a democracy

Those who are asked to defend it deserve a forum to read various points of view.

Staff Sgt. Gregory Bumgardner Ramadi, Iraq

### 'Doonesbury' a 'counterweight'

This is in response to Col. John Crook's Feb. 28 letter ("Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap'") denouncing the "Doonesbury" comic strip as a left-wing "piece of crap. "Doonesbury" — whatever its faults — is a decades-old, highly regarded, Pulitzer Prize-winning work of political satire.

In Stars and Stripes it stands as a counterweight to the frequently mean-spirited and simplistic right-wing diatribe that character-izes the upstart "Mallard Fillmore" strip on the adjoining page. Put the two of them together and, guess what, you have freedom of speech and diversity of opinion. Isn't that what the opinion pages of a newspaper are supposed to encourage?

Nicholas Stigliani

#### 'Doonesbury' has its place

Respectfully, Col. John Crook ("Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap,' " letter, Feb. 28): As an American, I am glad our "newspaper" of the armed services includes "that left-wing-subcutaneous-slandering piece-of-crap comic." What path would we

be walking down if we removed everything that didn't agree with us? I also am irritated when "Doonesbury

gleefully attacks the Republican Party and ignores Democratic Party foibles, but that is why the comic is in the Letters to the Editor section instead of the comics. Really though, should we pull "Foxtrot" because it may teach our children to be sassy? How about "Beetle Bailey"? Master Sgt. Robert Tebben

Seoul South Korea

#### Strip amuses other readers

After reading the Feb. 28 letter "Trudeau strip a 'piece of crap,'" all I can say is:
"Wow." I wanted to say more, but the presence of polite company made me refrain.

Apparently the "gentleman" who penned it doesn't quite get that "Doonesbury" and its opposite-page counterpart, "Mallard Fill more," aren't there for his amusement. They're placed on the page for mine. Because I have a sense of humor, and only half as inflated an ego.

Also, notice if you will, my use of quota-

tion marks around the word "gentleman" so that people can tell I'm being sarcastic, as was the letter writer with "newspaper." Aren't I clever? No?

Staff Sgt. Louis Stutz Camp Foster, Okinawa

#### Seek inner strength at front

To U.S. servicemembers serving in war zones: As the day passes by, your heart feels heavy, and you work hard to do the job right. Focus on the personal glory you will receive in the end. When the chore seems taxing, don't give

up! The dawn is just around the bend. Seek inner strength with every fiber of your When the war seems never ending and

you feel that you need a release from all that's occurring around you, hold on. Just reach out to a colleague, and pray together for immediate peace.

Most of all, when you feel in despair and lonely, and you feel like giving up hope, con-centrate on your friends and family back home. We are all standing by your side, while whispering and shouting to the heavens for you to come back home alive, where humble and safe arms lie.

So remember, do what you will to make

the mission successful. Then, when your tour is done, sing with praise and come home to loving arms. Ta'Sha Y. Brown

New York

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

#### Doonesbury







#### OPINION

# Merger mania: Size is the law of the jungle

hen elephants dance. grass gets trampled."

That African proverb could be an American business saying, too. Corporate giants are prowling

again, hungry for acquisitions. Will they trample the folks at the grass roots? The biggest retailers are getting bigger. Federated (owner of icons such as Macy's and Bloomingdale's) is buying May Department Stores (Lord & Taylor, Filene's and others). CVS expanded its already-large chain by buying Eck-

"As retailers swallow, manufacturers follow" - to coin a new business proverb. Giant distributors provoke suppliers to merge.

Gillette executives cite the need for clout with gargantuan Wal-Mart as the reason for selling Gillette to Procter & Gamble.

Size is the law of the jungle. Banks continue to consolidate; Citizens Bank CEO Larry Fish predicts that six big banks will soon dominate the U.S. market Media conglomerates own local broadcasters and newspapers. Telecommunications is shaking down to just a few giants, as SBC acquires AT&T, Verizon and Qwest vie to buy MCI.

This merger surge derives from more than a herd mentality or ambition to be king of the jungle. It reflects a long-term economic power shift from production to distribution. Companies with large distribution networks dictate terms to their suppliers and control the flow of goods and services to consum-

Long-term economic logic might favor this process, but in the short term, much grass gets crushed.

Let's start with consumers, whose purchases fill company cof-

Consumers hate mergers, Business Week asserted in December. That's not surprising. In service industries, a change in company ownership potentially inconveniences each individual user of a bank account, e-mail domain, cell phone line, long-distance plan or discount card - not to mention losing neighborhood facilities. While waiting for services to improve, consum-ers bear the costs of confusion and upgrades they might not want

Another grass-roots worry is ris-ing prices if competition decreases. At a House Energy and Commerce Committee hearing last week, U.S. Rep. Edward Markey. D-Mass., asked six telecom CEOs in three potential mega-mergers to guarantee not to raise post-acquisition prices. No

The work force isn't happy either. A Conference Board report on falling U.S. job satisfaction finds widespread discontent across ages and incomes. Half of Americans surveyed say

they're satisfied with their jobs, down from nearly 60 percent in 1995: only 14 percent feel very satisfied. In a related study, 40 percent feel disconnected from their employers, 25 percent are just "showing up to collect a pay-check." Mergers add uncertainty and anxiety that depress satisfac-

Some laid-off employees pray for work, others decide to worship something bigger than business. After merger-related layoffs in a high-tech corridor, church attendance increased.

Community leaders deplore acquisitions that remove a local headquarters. My research shows that companies contribute more money and leadership in their home office city. A division owned by a giant elsewhere doesn't have the same check-writing ability. Local nonprofits find corporate support shrinking — unless they, too, exnand their networks across cities to match giants' national reach

Personally, I don't hate all mergers. I just hate the way most are managed. Attention focuses on making the deal, not on what happens afterward.

Some mergers do bring instant improvements. CVS enhanced pharmacies at former Eckerd stores. Shinhan Financial Group in South Korea raised wages for workers in an acquired bank. Others create funds to maintain local community support for several years This shows what's possible.



Opposition to mergers by local politicians is often misguided and futile. But if concerned citizens can't trip the elephant, they don't have to let grass grow under their feet either

Consumers can make noise at the first announcements and vote with their wallets. Workers can keep skills fresh and an eye on starting their own business. Voters can insist on better programs to heln with transitions and attract new jobs. Local nonprofits can develop innovations valuable outside their community. Communities can encourage leadership from those more deeply planted than big companies: entrepreneurs (in cluding women) and professional sectors such as education and

We know what kinds of beasts the elephants are. That makes it even more important to cultivate trample-proof grass.

Rosabeth Moss Kanter is a Harvard Business School professor and author of "Confidence." She wrote this for The Miami Herald.

# Brusque Bolton now will set tone for U.S. at U.N.

resident Bush has shocked even his most cynical critics by nominating the combative neoconservative John Bolton to one of our most complex and sensitive diplomatic posts: U.S. ambassador to the United Nations. Bolton served the past four years as undersecretary of state for arms control and international se

curity, though then-Secretary of State Colin

BY SUSAN E. RICE

Powell initially resisted his appointment. Condoleezza Rice, who passed over Bolton for deputy secretary despite strong supnort for him from Vice President Dick Cheney, put on a brave face Monday in announcing his appointment. She stressed the administration's commitment to U.N. reform and praised Bolton as a friend of the United Nations who helped repeal the noxious General Assembly resolution equating Zionism with racism. But as Rice must know, keeping Bolton off her team at State

may prove a Pyrrhic victory, if he takes his

notoriously abrasive style to New York.

The job of U.N. ambassador is always important and delicate, but arguably never more so than now. The United Nations is facing unprecedented, justified criticism for its role in the oil-for-food scandal and its failure to prevent peacekeepers from sexually exploiting civilians in Congo. Several Republican members of Congress are gunning for Secretary-General Kofi Annan's head. In response, Annan is shaking up his management team and reminding the United States how badly it needs the United Nations.

Indeed, the United States is relying on the United Nations to carry out a massive tsunami-recovery effort and 17 peacekeeping missions, to support the democratization processes in Afghanistan and Iraq, and to pressure Iran to halt its nuclear program. At the

60th anniversary of its founding, the United Nations has rarely been more relevant or in greater need of reform.

Is John Bolton the right man? Having served as assistant secretary of state for international organization affairs from 1989 to 1993, Bolton may be deemed qualified, but his record on multilateral issues is alarming He told The Wall Street Journal that "the happiest moment of his government service" was when the Bush administration renounced the treaty on the International Criminal Court. Bolton led the administration's withdrawal from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, scuttled an important biological weapons protocol and weakened an international agreement to limit small-arms trafficking. On these issues, Bolton's positions at least reflected administration policy But Bolton holds many strong views that

diverge sharply from current U.S. policy. He described the United Nations as "a great, rusting hulk of a bureaucratic superstructure ... dealing with issues from the ridicu-lous to the sublime." More important, he maintains that the United States has no legal obligation to pay its U.N. dues

Once a paid consultant to the Taiwanese government, Bolton favors Taiwan's inde-pendence and its full U.N. membership — a dangerous position in light of cross-straits tensions and our efforts to obtain Chinese pressure on North Korea. Will Bolton set aside his support for a Taiwanese U.N. seat while manning the U.S. seat on the Security Council?

Bolton has testified against U.N. involvement in Congo, an interstate conflict that has cost 3 million lives. He blasted the United Nations' concept of operations for its Ethiopia-Eritrea effort and rejected U.N. civil administration missions in Kosovo and East Timor. Will Bolton undergo such a conversion on the road to First Avenue that he can effectively support U.N. peace operations?

Finally, Bolton criticized any " 'right of hu-

manitarian intervention' to justify military operations to prevent ethnic cleansing or po-tential genocide." One must wonder how forcefully he will work to halt what the administration deems genocide in Darfur. Rice asserts that Bolton will be an outspo-

ken, effective U.N. ambassador in the vein of Jeane Kirkpatrick and Daniel Patrick Moynihan. ... Those of us who believe the United States needs an effective, reformed United Nations can only hope he succeeds.

Susan E. Rice is a senior fellow in foreign policy studies at the Brookings Institution. She was assistant secretary of state from 1997 to 2001. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY I APOLOGIZE to OUR VIEWERS FOR OUR SELF ESTEEM GENERATION YOU FORGOT TO SAY GOOD INTERVIEW SPOKESPERSONS ARRECT INABILITY TO ANSWER EVEN THE SIMPLEST OF AND to tell ME HOW SPECIAL QUESTIONS. I AM. I GUESS THIS CONCLUDES

ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU ARE?

I NO LONGER WISH TO BE

CALLED A \* BO

Hobbes

THAT MAY NOT

A "CHROMOSOMALLY ADVANTAGED YOUTH!

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO BE CALLED THEN?

YES, BUT I FIND

DEMEANING AND SEXIST

#### **Horoscope**

The headstrong Aries lunar ener gy causes some to be overly aggressive, thinking that the louder they talk or the more they repeat themselves, the better their **Holiday Mathis** chances of being heard. The opposite is true. With so much Pisces energy in the heavens, subtlety communicates much more clearly. Dare to be soft.

humble and even cov. TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (March 11). You're on a mission - nearly obsessed, really! This intense degree of focus is what it takes for mastery and

attainment of something that goes to the elite few! In May, circulate, and make valuable contacts. Finances improve, and because of this, you're able to fund life-improving summer projects. Love is an adventure with Leo and Libra.

#### ARIES (March 21-April 19). That unpleasant person or awkward issue must now be dealt with direct-

lv. Avoidance is pointless. Like a bad French movie, your life will keep intersecting with the thing until a madcap culmination is reached. TAURUS (April 20-May 20).

When communication is missed and events don't unfold cleanly, extend the benefit of the doubt. You're so on the go that even people who should know how to find you have a hard time tracking you down

#### GEMINI (May 21-June 21).

The saying goes that "rejection is God's protection." In spite of recent reversals, the demand for what only you can deliver has not slacked in the slightest. You're still charismatic, and tonight's events prove it.

#### CANCER (June 22-July 22).

You're a giving soul. But the neediness in the world is just too strong a current and succumbing to it will drag you in over your head. Though you won't be able to give people all they want from you, give what you

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Your inventiveness, intuition and ingenuity sparkle up everything you touch. You've got answers that even the

powers of Google couldn't deliver! Too bad friends don't follow your advice, but hey, at least you follow vour own

#### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Sentimentality dictates some of your activities. It's not like you, and

maybe that's the appeal You feel soft and pliable. It's time to admit it: Your passing fancy is growing into an abiding attach-

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). You'll

witness the domino effect. Perhaps the snarled-up plans of the day would discourage a less creative soul, but you'll make something

magical out of the whole mess You're nothing if not resilient.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Your psychic antennae are activa ed. Someone is either talking about what you can do for him or her or fantasizing about same. What a coincidence - you were just think ing about what that person might do for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). What's life without glamour, art and adventure? Unless you do some research or make some plans for the weekend, you're about to find out! Get on that! A Gemini can contribute

#### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Even if you're destined for a day of labor, find ways to cut loose and have a little fun. Your associa-

tion with a Leo or Aquarius helps. Playful electricity is in the air. Join the merry-go-round of people out and about

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). What would happen if you just let go of plaguing commitment issues? Maybe you're just fine with the level of commitment you have! I ove is more fun if you play it by ear now anyway.

#### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).

Ahandon antiquated ideas and outdated methods for the modern streamlined and efficient. The more you automate your life, the more time you have to be frivolous and spontaneous. Reintroduce vourself to the concept of fun.

Creators Syndicate

#### Peanuts





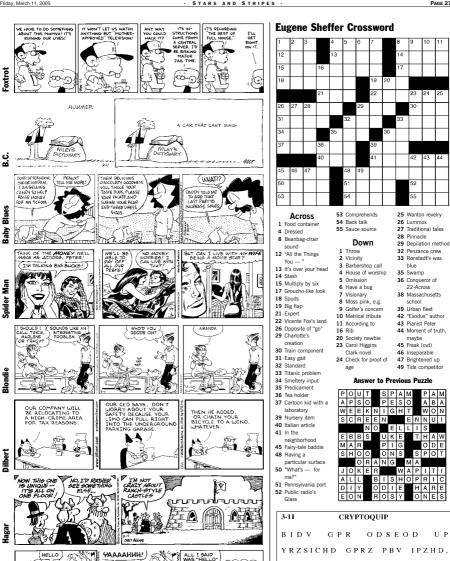




Worse 5



Friday, March 11, 2005 · STARS AND STRIPES · PAGE 27



**ЧААААННН** 

# YRZSICHD GPRZ PBV IPZHD,

A D U P

GPR BEMM DADVURCMMG

YPVG

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HAVE YOU HEARD THAT THE VANDALS DESTROYED ROAD SIGNS. PULLING OUT ALL THE STOPS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: Y equals P

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

## **Expensive gifts mark of pedophile**

Dear Abby: I am a happily married man, raising two daugh-ters, ages 12 and 15.

A friend I have known for 20 years, "Kevin," has become a little too friendly toward our 15-year-old, "Amanda." He has been giving Amanda money for doing nothing. The first time, he gave her \$300 Dear Abby and told her not to tell her mother or me. Of course, our daughter told us anyway. When we

confronted Kevin, he said he felt sorry for Amanda and she was supposed to baby-sit to pay back the loan, so we allowed her to keep the money to buy clothes with A few weeks after that.

Kevin gave Amanda \$200 for letting him cut her long blond hair so he could sell it on the Internet. Needless to say. her mother and I were very upset. But instead of confronting him again, we just gave Kevin the cold shoulder, hoping he'd

get the message and go away About a month later, he snuck into our home while my wife and lite box in Amanda's room. Wh we discovered the box, we asked Amanda where it came from. and she said Kevin. I looked at the programming on the box. It had been rigged with free pay and pornography channels. We

removed the box, gave it back to our ex-friend and ordered him never to come around our kids again. Do you think we did enough?

— Unsure in Washington

Dear Unsure: One of the things pedophiles do with potential vic tims is something called "grooming. They befriend the young person, give him

or her gifts or money, encourage the minor to keep secrets from their parents, and then the seduction begins. That's what the "free" porn channel in

your daughter's bedroom was for You did not do nearly enough in dealing with this predator Although you may have discour aged him from targeting Amanda, your community? Please contact your local police immediately

Dear Abby: My daughter came home from school the other day with bruises on her body When I asked her how she got them, she told me a little boy beat her up at recess. I went to the school to talk with her teacher, but nothing was done, and my daughter came home with another bruise yesterday. What should

> Worried Mom in Thomasville, Ga.

Dear Worried: Your child has a right to get an education, free from bullying or harassment. Since talking to the teacher didn't help, here's the drill: Take your complaint to the principal of the school. If that doesn't stop the problem, go to the school board. If they fail to act, consult a lawyer. Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069, Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at

http://www.uexpress.com/deara Universal Press Syndicate

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion Let's take (yawn) 20 minutes for a recess

one letter to each square. to form four ordinary words.



HUNGOE

DORMIB

WHEN THE JUDGE PRESIDED OVER THE LONG TRIAL, HE-

to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. (Answers tomorrow)

Now arrange the circled letters

#### Yesterday's Answer:

Jumbles: AGILE BLIME IMPEND LIMPID He didn't take sides in the debate because he was a - "MIDDLE" MAN

#### **Family Circus**

# 3-11

"They're a little big for you, Grandma, but that's okay. You'll arow into them.'

#### Make best of daughter's choice

Dear Annie: 1 am concerned about my 21-year-old daughter "Lindsey." She has been with "Chip" for three years, although the relationship has always been on-again, off-again, Last year, Chip broke up with her, she gained a ton of weight, and then begged him to come back, altering her entire self to become the person Chip wanted her to be.

It devastated us to see this intelligent voung woman become someone she is not. But even worse, last summer she and Chip were married. It kills me that she makes concessions to him. She attends college full time and works part time, and he expects her to keep the house clean, make dinner, do laundry, etc., while he works at a job making slightly above minimum wage then comes home and sits on his behind, watching TV. At one point, Chip told Lindsey he didn't love her and was moving out, then changed his mind, and she let him move back in



about washed his hands of her, and to be honest. I am not far behind. When Chin comes over, which is rare, we try to be friendly and make him feel welcome. But how can we accept a person like this into our family when we know how little he cares about our daughter's feel-

ings? I love Lindsey so much, and this is breaking my

> - Desperate Mother in Kentucky

Dear Desperate: Lindsey may have made a mistake marrying Chip, but she is an adult, and you're going to have to make the best of it. You are wise to be friendly and welcoming to your son-in-law, because doing otherwise would push your daughter away. Make sure Lindsey knows how much you love her and that you will always be a source of comfort and support. Meanwhile. we hope Chip can grow up and become the man he needs to be

Dear Annie: You recently printed a letter from "Bride in Endicott, N.Y.," who said it was great when shower guests address their own thank-you notes be-cause it means the spelling and address are correct. She also said it helps if the guest identifies how

she is related If a bride doesn't know me well enough to know who I am, why on earth did she invite me to her shower?

- Cross Me Off Her Guest List Dear Cross Me Off: Let's not go overboard. We agree that brides should address their own thank-you notes, but it is not unusual for unfamiliar guests to

be present. After all, the bride is not the one hosting the party. It is proper, for example, to invite the new in-laws, including the groom's cousins and aunts whom the bride may not have met previously.

Annie's Malibox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to anniesmailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Malibox, c/o Creators Syndi Century Blvd, Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 9006.

# MA

# © Gary I I NEED YOUR HELP, DAD, MOM'S GON TABLES FOR DINNER. YOU COULD SAY ABOUT HAMBURGERS INSTEAD, DARLING?





"Well, if you're almost ready



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Dodge Neon'97 Expresso 49Korig mi, new head gasket

Ford Probe '94 V6, 5spd, excl condition, met blue, low mil, od, ac, good tires/sport whis, non-smoker oper

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.BMW X5 3.0i 2004 white, sand leather, U.S. specs, auto trans Ducati 916 '98 8K km, immacu-late. Lots of carbon fiber, EPA SUZUKI Bandit 600 '96, US Spec 17k mi, many new parts, new tires, red, dynojet kit, \$3000 obo. Call 0176-29738644. Land Rover Discovery SE 97 loaded, slv, dual sunroof, fu

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thelin Energy MXV4 Plus s, 205%5HR-16, set of 4. and new, never used. Original signment on 3 Series BMW. each retail, asking \$3 set of 4, 09720-951748

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STARS STRIPES.

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#### Friday

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-College basketball ac-10 Conference tournament quarterfina 

dld).

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.-Motor racing: Crandon nternational Off-Road Race 1 (dld).

AFN-Sports, 6 p.m.-College basketball: Big en Conference tournament doubleheader. AFN-Sports, 10:30 p.m.-College basketball onference USA tournament semifinal dou-

#### Saturday

AFN-Atlantic, 1:30 a.m.-College basketball: outheastern Conference tournament quarterfinal doubleheader.
AFN-Sports, 3:30 a.m.-College basketball:
Big East Conference tournament semifinal

game.

AFN-Radio, 3 a.m.-Pro basketball: Houston Phoenix. AFN-Pacific, 4 a.m.-Pro basketball: L.A. Clippers at Sacramento.

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-Pro basketball: Hous on at Phoenix (dld).

AFN-Sports, 12:30 p.m.-College basketball:

AFN-Sports and Radio, 5:30 p.m.-College haskethall: Conference USA championship ame. AFN-Pacific, 5:30 p.m.-College basketball: merica East Conference championship

ame. AFN-Atlantic. 6 p.m.-College basketball: MEAC championship game.

AFN-Pacific and Radio, 7:30 p.m.-College basketball: Atlantic Coast Conference semifi-

al doubleheader. AFN-Sports, 7:45 p.m.-College basketball: ia Ten Conference tournament semifinal noubleheader.

AFN-Atlantic, 8 p.m.-College basketball:

All times are Central European Time; did in-dicates delayed listing. All listings are sub-ject to change. Visit www.myafn.netfor more information.

#### Baseball

#### Spring training glance AMERICAN LEAGUE

.833 .667 Toronto Boston Boston Cleveland Tampa Bay Los Angeles Detroit Texas Baltimore .66 .625 .600 .571 .500 .375 .375 Minnesota Oakland Chicago Kansas City 5 .286 5 .167 6 .143 NATIONAL LEAGUE Pct 1.000 .800 St. Louis Colorado Washingto Chicago Milwaukee San Franci: Cincinnati .667 .625 .625 .571 .571 .500 .500 Cincinnat New York Arizona Arizona San Diego Pittsburgh .250 Los Angeles Houston .167

Houston
Philadelphia
Note: Split-squad games cou
standings; games against non-me
teams do not.

Wednesday's games
Texas 6, Chicago Cubs 5
Colorado 6, Milwaukee 3

Colorado 6, Milfwaukee 3 Oakland 5, San Francisco 1 Kansas City 6, Seattle 0 L.A. Angels (ss) 16, Arizona 2 Chicago White Sox 7, San Diego (ss) 3 L.A. Angels (ss) 2, San Diego (ss) 1 Boston vs. Florida at Jupiter Fla., ccd., rain Baltimore vs. Minnesota at Fort Myers, Fla., ccd., rain
Toronto vs. Pittsburgh at Bradenton, Fla.,

CCC, rain N.Y. Yankees vs. Cleveland at Winter Haven, Fla., ccd., rain Detroit (ss) vs. Washington at Viera, Fla., ccd., rain L.A. Dodgers vs. Tampa Bay at St. Peters-burg, Fla., ccd., rain Cincinnati (ss) vs. Detroit (ss) at Lakeland,

Cincinnatí (ss) vs. Detroit (ss) at Lakeland, Fla, ccd, rain) Cincinnatí (ss) vs. Philadelphia at Clearwa-ter, Fla, ccd, rain St. Louis vs. NY. Mets at Port St. Lucie, Fla, ccd, rain Houston vs. ctd., rain Houston vs. Atlanta at Kissimmee, Fla, ccd, rain

cd., rain

Thursday's games
Detroit vs. Cincinnati at Sarasota, Fia.
Pittsburgh vs. Atlanta at Kissimmee, Fia.
L.A. Dodgers vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fia.
Houston vs. St. Louis at Jupiter, Fia.
N.Y. Mets vs. Baltimore at Fort Lauderdale,
N.Y. Mets vs. Baltimore at Fort Lauderdale,

Fla. Florida vs. Washington (ss) at Viera, F Philadelphia vs. Minnesota at Fort My

Fla. Cleveland (ss) vs. Tampa Bay at St. Peters-

burn, Fla.

Washington (ss) vs. Cleveland (ss) at Winter Haven, Fla.
San Diego vs. Colorado at Tucson, Ariz.
Chicago Cubs vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz.
Oakland vs. La. Angels at Tempe, Ariz.
Kansas City vs. Milwaukee at Phoenix
Ariz.
Ariz. ago White Sox vs. Texas at Suprise,
Ariz.

#### Wednesday's women's scores

San Francisco vs. Arizona at Tucson, Ariz. Toronto vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla. Friday's games Boston vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla. TOURNAMENTS
America East Conferei
First Round
ston U. 85, Stony Brook 74
rtheastern 49, UMBC 48
Big 12 Conference
Quarterfinals
ylor 70, Missouri 52 Boston vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla. Atlanta vs. Houston at Kissimmee, Fla. Baltimore vs. Florida at Jupiter, Fla. N.Y. Yankees vs. Detroit at Lakeland, Fla. St. Louis vs. Washington at Viera, Fla. Philadelphia vs. Cincinnati at Sarasota,

vaukee vs. San Francisco at Scotts-

lale, Ariz. N.Y. Mets vs. L.A. Dodgers at Vero Beach,

la. Saturday's games Minnesota vs. Toronto at Dunedin, Fla. Tampa Bay vs. Boston at Fort Myers, Fla. Washington vs. Florida at Jupiter, Fla. Detroit vs. Atlanta (ss) at Kissimmee, Fla. Houston vs. Cleveland at Winter Haven,

L.A. Dodgers (ss) vs. Baltimore at Fort Lau-erdale, Fla. neruare, P.Ia. N.Y. Mets (ss) vs. L.A. Dodgers (ss) at Vero leach, Fla. Atlanta (ss) vs. Philadelphia (ss) at Clear-vater. Fla.

water, Fla. Pittsburgh (ss) vs. Cincinnati (ss) at Sara-sota, Fla.

Ita, Ha. Cincinnati (ss) vs. Pittsburgh (ss) at

St Louis vs. N.V. Mats (ss) at Dort St Lucia

la. Philadelphia (ss) vs. N.Y. Yankees at Philadelphia (ss) vs. N.Y. Yankees at Tampa, Fla.
Texas vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz.
San Diego vs. Arizona at Tucson, Ariz.
Milwaukee vs. Colorado at Tucson, Ariz.
Chicago White Sox vs. Oakland at Phoenix
L.A. Angels (ss) vs. Chicago Cubs at Mesa,
Ariz

riz. San Francisco (ss) vs. Kansas City at Sur-

prise, Ariz. L.A. Angels (ss) vs. San Francisco (ss) at

College basketball

Wednesday's men's scores

TOURNAMENTS Atlantic 10 Confere First Round

Dayton 78, St. Bonaventure 48 Fordham 65, Duquesne 53 La Salle 70, Massachusetts 64, OT Richmond 68, Rhode Island 60

La Salle 70, Massacnuseus w., etc. Richmond 68, Rhode Island 60 Rig East Conference First Round
Georgetown 56, Seton Hall 51 Rutgers 72, Notre Dame 65
West Virginia 82, Providence 59
Big Sixy Conference Stamptonship Montana 63, Whamptonship Montana 64, Whamptonship Montana 65, Whamptonship Montana 66, Whamptonship Monta

DePaul 81, Tulane 71 Memphis 79, Saint Louis 59 South Florida 69, Houston 64 Marquette 57, OT

Eairleigh Dicki

Montana 63, Weber St. 61 Big West Conference First Round UC Irvine 80, Idaho 67 UC Santa Barbara 55, Long Beach St. 49 Conference USA First Round

Memphis 78, Saint Louis ≈ 6
South Florida 68, Nouston 61
CU South Florida 684 72
American 68, Nouston 68, Nouston 68, Florida 684 72
American 68, Nouston 68,

Northeast Conference Championship Dickinson 58, Wagner 52

NCAA men's automatic bids

NUAR men's automatic bids Central Florida, Alantic Sun Conference Chatanooga, Southern Conference Chatanooga, Southern Conference Chatanooga, Southern Conference Eastern Kentudy, Ohio Valley Conference Faireligh Dickinson, Northeast Conference Gorzaga, West Coast Conference Gorzaga, West Coast Conference Montana, Big Sky Conference Montana, Big Sky Conference Of Dominion, Colonial Americ Conference Of Dominion, Colonial Americ Conference Wintforce, Big South Conference Wintforce Wintforce

lorthe...

Baylor 70, Missouri 52
Kansas St. 71, Nebraska 45
Texas 55, Oklahoma 59
Texas Tech 51, Iowa St. 59
By West Conference
First Round
75, Utah St. 63
"Cal St. Fullerto
"A St. Asport la. Minnesota vs. Tampa Bay at St. Petersttsburgh vs. Cleveland at Winter Haven, la.
Texas vs. L.A. Angels at Tempe, Ariz.
Colorado vs. Seattle at Peoria, Ariz.
Arizona vs. Chicago Cubs at Mesa, Ariz
Oakland vs. Kansas City at Surprise, Ar
San Diego vs. Chicago White Sox at T
on, Ariz.

Lean. Big First Rouna
UC Irvine 75, Utah St. 62, Fullerton 37
UC Rollonian Alberta Association
First Round
Hofstra 68, Wiles Hospital
Hofstra 78, Ball St. 64

Bowling Green 84, Maria (16) Hospital
Bowling Green 84, Maria (16) Hospital
Hofstra 78, Ball St. 64

Marshall 68, Tolden 55 68, Conferen
Mid-Eastern Altherfunk

Marshall 68, Toledo 56
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conferen
Quarterfinals
Coppin St. 66, S. Carolina St. 60
Norlolk St. 64, Hampton 53
Mountain West Conference
First Round
BYU 70, Colorado St. 65
New Mexico 81, San Diego St. 52

UNLV 64, Wyoming 59 Utah 63, Air Force 42 NAIA Division II Tourn First Round Utah S. Art Poort.

#### NCAA women's automatic bids

NCAN WOMEN'S AUTOMATIC DIES
Canisius, Mero Italianic Abiletic Conference
Connecticut, Big East Conference
Holy Cross, Parton League
Michigan State, Big Ten Conference
Holy Cross, Parton League
Michigan State, Big Ten Conference
Michigan State, Big Ten Conference
Oral Roberts, Mid-Continent Conference
Oral Roberts, Mid-Continent Conference
Santa Clara, West Coast Conference
Temple, Atlantic, 10 Conference
Temple, Atlantic, 10 Conference Texas Christian, Conference USA Western Carolina, Southern Conferen Wisconsin-Green Bay, Horizon League

#### College baseball

#### Wednesday' scores

SOUTH rmstong Atlantic 9, Bellarmine 6 verett 7, Guilford 3 harlotte 12, Minh 5 Americo Altenti Seumine 6
Averett 7, Guildro 3, et al.
Coastal Carolina 5, The Citadel 1
Evansvijel 1, Thern-Martin 3, et al.
Coastal Carolina 5, The Citadel 1
Evansvijel 1, Thern-Martin 3, et al.
Coercija 5, Teninesse Tech 2 and 5
Lightinge 4, Rangoden 5-ydney 3
Lightinge 4, Rangoden 5-ydney 3
Lightinge 4, Rangoden 5-ydney 3
Lightinge 5, Thernesse 5, Centenary 2
Lightinge 6, Rangoden 5-ydney 3
Lightinge 6, Rangoden 5-ydney 3
Lightinge 6, Rangoden 5-ydney 3
Lightinge 7, Lightinge 7, et al.
Lightinge 6, Rangoden 5-ydney 3
Lightinge 7, Lightinge 7, Lightinge 7

Southern Utah 18, Penn 6
Tennessee 15, Oakland, Mich. 0
Tusculum 18-8, North Greenevill,
Valdosta St. 8, Brewton, Parker 1
Virginia 13, James Madison 2
Winthrop 8, Clemson 2
Winthrop 8, Clemson 2
Augusta St. 8, 100 Mars 5
Wichita St. 9-9, Valparaiso 0-0

SOUTHWEST Friends 18, North Park 5 McMurry 7, Southwestern, Texas 5 FAR WEST Cal St.-Fullerton 7, CS Northridge 4 Washington 15, Pacific 2

# Auto racing

#### **Driver standings**

NASCAR Busch Series
1. Kevin Harvick, 515; 2. Carl Edwards, 454 1. Kovin Handle, S.B. 2. Carl Edwards, 454: 3. Clinif Bowyer, 433: 4. Martin Truex, Ir. 423: 5. Reed Sorenson, 414: 6. Ashton Lewis, 397: 7. Shane Hmiel, 376: 8. Kenny Wallace, 318; 9. Justin Laborite, 303: 10. Jason Keller, 284 Justin Laborite, 303: 10. Jason Keller, 284 Justin Laborite, 303: 7. Ricky Craven, 303: 3. Jimmy Spencer, 321: 4. Ted Musgrave, 301: 5. Matt Crafton, 286: 6. Steve Park, 279: 7. Johnny Benson, 271: 8. David Reutimann, 285: 9. Demis Setter, 26-2; 10. Casey Atwood.

Indy Racing League

1. Dan Wheldoff 53: 2. Sam Hornish Jr. 40: 3.
Tony Kanaan 35: 4. Vitor Meira 32: 5. Helio Castroneves 30: 6. Darren Manning 28: 7.
Patrick Carpentier 26: 8. Alex Barron 24: 9.
A.J. Foyt IV 22: 10. Paul Dana 20.
Tormula One
1. Giancario Fisichella, Italy, Renault, 10: 2.
Rubers Barrichello, Brazil, Ferrari, 8: 3.

Barrichello, Brazil, Ferrari, S.; S. Fernando Alonso, Spain, Renault, G. 4. David Coulthard, Britain, Red Bull, 5; 5. Mark Web-ber, Australia, Williams, 4; 6. Juan Pablo Mon-toya, Colombia, McLaren, 3; 7. Christian Klein, Austral, Red Bull, 2; 8. Kimi Raikkonen, Flinand, McLaren, 1.

#### Skiing

#### **World Cup** Thursday At Lenzerheide, Switzerland Women's downhill Renate Goetschi, Austria, 1 minute,

1. Renate Goessen, Charles, 127.46.
S.B., Seconds.
2. Ingrid Jacquemod, France, 1:27.46.
3. Hilde Gerg, Germany, 1:27.56.
4. Julia Mancuso, United States, 1:27.73.
4. (tie) Janica Kostelic, Croatia, 1:27.73.

4. (tie.) Janica Kostelic, Croatia, 1:27.73.
6. Michaela Dorfmeister, Austria, 1:28.15.
7. Daniela Ceccarelli, Italy, 1:28.25.
8. Anja Paerson, Sweden, 1:28.31.
9. Petra Hallmayr, Germany, 1:28.35.
9. Petra Hallmayr, Germany, 1:28.35.
Final World Cup downhill standings (After eight races)
1. Renate Goetsch, Austria, 557 points, 57

Renate Goetschi, Austria, 507 point Hilde Gerg, Germany, 495. Michaela Dorfmeister, Austria, 432. Michaela Dorfmeister, Austria, 432. Janica Kostelic, Croatia, 387 Lindsey Kildow, United States, 384. Ingrid Jacquemod, France, 298. Carole Montillet-Carles, France, 284. Anja Paerson, Sweden, 209

8. Anja Paerson, Sweden, 209
9. Sylvjane Berthod, Switzerland, 207
10. Julia Mancuso, United States, 170
10. Julia Mancuso, United States, 170
World (After 30 races)
11. Anja Paerson, Sweden, 1773 points,
2 anica Kosteller, Croatia, 1278
128. Alichael Borfmeister, Austria, 1022.
2 Tanja Poutlanne, Finland, 309
2. Tanja Poutlanne, Finland, 308
2. Tanja Poutlande, Finlande, 308
2. Tanja Poutlande, 308
2. Tanja

#### **Tennis**

#### Pacific Life Open

Wednesday At The Indian Wells Tennis Garden Indian Wells, Calif. Purse: Men, \$2,724,600 (Masters); Women \$2.1 million (Tier I) Surface: Hard-Outdoor

women First Round Kim Clijsters, Belgium, def. Nicole Pratt, ustralia, 6-2, 6-1. Aum Leigher, Belgium, der Miccle Pattl.
Silvilla Tallai, Forgala, def. Annatha Parra
Shivilla Tallai, Forgala, def. Annatha Parra
Abigail Sears, United States, def. Libonilla,
MartingCleiche, Sanda, def. Traites Perebyris, Miratine, G.A., Ed., det. Aniko, KapraMartine, G.A., Ed., det. Aniko, KapraMartine, Forgala, G.A., def. Aniko, KapraMartine, Tallain, G.A., def. Aniko, KapraMartine, Tallain, G.A., def. MariaFrancis, G.A., def. MariaFrancis, G.A., def. MariaSeevine Betrauer, France, def. MariaSeevine Betrauer, France, def. Ort.
Valland Fodal, Undane, def. Virginie RazioAlmer, Barkson, Jujuel States, def. AnaAnne, Anikosan, Jujuel States, def. AnaAnne, Anikosan, Jujuel States, def. AnaAnne, Anikosan, Jujuel States, def. Ana-

no, France, 6-3, 6-u. Jamea Jackson, United States, def. Anca Barna, Germany, 7-6 (4), 6-4.

Nuria Llagostera Vives, Spain, def. Camille Pin, France, 6-4, 6-0. Dally Randriantefy, Madagascar, def. Vir-ginia Ruano Pascual, Spain, 7-6 (6), 6-1. Anna Chakyetadze, Russia, def. Martina anna Chakvetadze, Russia, def. Martina ucha, Slovakia, 6-0, 7-5. Rika Fujiwara, Japan, def. Alina Jidkova, ussia, 6-3, 6-3. Mariana Diaz-Oliva, Argentina, def. Kristi-na Brandi, Puerto Rico, 6-4, 6-2.

#### Military basketball

#### **USAFE** small units

RAF FAIRFORD, England — Results of the 2005 USAFE small units basketball tourna-

005 USAFE small units basketnent, a pool-play event that ends Wednesday's games Rhein-Main 72, St. Mawgan 70 Keflavik 73, Stavanger 63 Geilenkirchen 90, Rhein-Main 65 Menwith Hill 75, Croughton 55 Keflavik 76, Fairford 72 Alconbury 66, Lajes 64 Fairford 80, Stavanger 66 irford 80, Stavanger 66
Thursday's games
enwith Hill 80, Rhein-Main 66

Meriwith Hill SU, Rhein-Maan be Gellenkirchen 84, Croughton 62 Fairford 67, Lajes 61 Alconbury 99, Stavanger 68 (2 OT) Gellenkirchen vs. Meriwith Hill Keflavik vs. Lajes Croughton vs. 5t. Mawgan End of pool play Friday Consolation games, 10 a.m., noon and 2

i.m. Semifinals, 4 and 6 p.m.

Semifinals, 4 and 6 p.m.
Saturday
Third place, 10 a.
Championship, noon.
(through Thursdays early games)
Pool. 4 – 64 Thursdays early games)
Pool. 4 – 64 Care Saturdays
Food Care Saturdays Care Saturdays
Pool. 8 – 64 Care Saturdays
Sa

#### Deals

#### Wednesday's transactions RASFRALL

MASEBALL
American League
CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Reassigned C
Jonathan Aceves, OF Tony Alvarez, RHP Enemencio Pacheco, 18 Jorge Toca and RHP Edumencio Pacheco, Il Jorge Toca and Rife Edu-ardo Villacia to their minor league camp.

Tamba BAY DEVIL BAYS—RessSigned Rivel
Immy Haynes, SRP John Webb. Life Joe
Immy, Lamba Bay Devil Bays
Immy, Lamba Bays
Immy, Lamba Bays
Immy, Lamba Bays
Immy, Lamba Bays
Immy, Lamba
I

AT LATT & Recilional League of Contribution of

Bedell.

HOUSTON TEXANS—Signed CB Lewis Sand-ers, FB Jarrod Baxter, DE Corey Sears and S

ason Simmons. MIAMI DOLPHINS—Signed LB Donnie Spragan to a two-year contract.

MINNESOTA VIKINGS—Re-signed TE Jermaine Wiggins to a five-year contract. naine Wiggins to a tive-year contract.

NEW YORK GIANTS—Signed QB Jim Miller,
ST. LOUIS RAMS—Re-signed G Darnell Alord and TE Roland Williams to one-year con-

racts.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Agreed to terms with WR Keenan McCardell on a two-year ontract extension through the 2007 season. OLYMPICS USA WATER POLO—Named Bill Barnett U.S.

omen's Olympic coach and Heath oody and Bernice Orwig assistant coacl SOCCER

D.C. UNITED—Signed D Bobby Boswell and
Tim Merritt to developmental roster con-

acts.

COLLEGE

ARKANSAS STATE—Signed Dickey Nutt,
nen's basketball coach, to a three-year con-CAL STATE-LOS ANGELES—Announced the etirement of Dave Yanai, men's basketball

BELHAVEN—Announced the resignation of BELHAVEN—Announced the resignation of Jale Hatcher, men's basketball coach. BUFFALO—Named Jim Lodes women's vol-eyball coach. HOWARD—Fired Frankie Allen, men's bas-

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT—Fired Steve Ag-lers, men's basketball coach.

MARSHALL—Announced the retirement of Pruett, football coach. NNESOTA STATE—Named Ken Gordon defensive coordinator.

MISSISSIPPI—Agreed to terms with Rod
Barnes, men's basketball coach, on a
four-year contract through the 2008-09 sea-

TOUT-year Contract on Song Contract Contract of Contract Contract

ROCKHURST-Named John Dodderidge sports information director.

STONEHILL-Announced the retirement of Sandy Xenos, women's tennis coach. Named Pam Arpe women's tennis coach.

TEMPLE-Named Paul Lounsberry offensive line coach.

#### TANK MCNAMARA





# **RACING STRIPES**

#### A WEEKLY LOOK AT MOTORSPORTS



Rusty Wallace, right, who plans to retire from full-time competition after this season, is tired of the week-to-week grind of the 10-month Nextel Cup season. Wallace plans to focus on his family as well as his Busch Series team and car dealership when he's done racing full-time.

# 'Rusty's Last Call'

## Wallace chasing Cup one more time before semi-retirement

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS The Associated Press

usty Wallace never said he wouldn't race again. He even wonders at times if he's making the right decision to retire from full-time NASCAR competition after the 2005 season.

When he can't sleen Wallace stares at the ceiling in the middle of the night thinking about things he did in the past, or what he'll do when he's not racing 10 months a year

"I'm all over." he said of his thoughts. "Honestly, I'm not con-tent at all."

But the 48-year-old Wallace is sure about one thing: He's tired of the week-to-week grind.

"I'm retiring because I'm just burnt out in the schedule," he said. "If I get through the end of 2005, and I feel like, 'Man, I'm running 3,000 mph and now they tell me I've got to stop,' I'm proba bly going to say let's run about 10 [races the next year]. But for sure, my days of running the full schedule are over.'

After one more championship chase, that is,

Wallace began this season with



a 14th-place finish in the Budweiser Shootout. His 22nd Nextel Cup season, which has been dubbed "Rusty's Last Call." officially got under way with a 10th-place finish in the Daytona 500, the race he can't claim among his 55 wins and the one he wanted the most.

"I wanted to win this race, but that's OK," said Wallace, who started 36th and advanced all the way to fifth before dropping back. "It really isn't OK, but I told evervbody if I didn't win, it wouldn't be the end of the world. ... I'm done with it. I've had a lot of fun, and I enjoy it.

Wallace, who wrecked during Daytona qualifying and had to switch to his backup car, finished in the top 10 nine times in 23 Day- lower than in 2003 when a streak tona 500s

His best finish in NASCAR's most prestigious race was third in 2001 He led another time with 10 laps to go, and in 1993 was third "with me, Dale Jarrett and (Dale) Earnhardt going for the win' when he was hit by another car and barrel-rolled down the backstretch.

"I haven't won the Daytona 500 and I doubt there's too many people out there who are not aware of that fact," said Wallace, the 1989 series champion and fourth on the career earnings list with nearly \$44 million. "I got close many, many times.

Still, his farewell season is about more than that elusive Daytona win. And forget nostalgia Wallace wants to approach 2005 like any other year.

"I'm real intent to try to win more races," he said. "I want to go out on top. I don't want to go out fading. ... I'm going to be rockin' and rollin' and go wide open all year.

Wallace has finished top 10 in season points 16 times. He ended a 105-race winless streak last vear but was still 16th, two spots

of 10 straight top-10 seasons ended

"You always hear about the importance of making first impres-sions," he said, "But for us, we're determined to leave some great last impressions."

Once full-time driving is done, Wallace won't be bored. He hopes the Busch Series

team he owns, running its first full schedule this year, will be a championship contender by 2006. He also will spend more time

on his car dealership business and with 17-year-old son Stephen, an aspiring NASCAR driver who will race in the Hooters Pro Cup Series this year.

Not to mention more time with his wife, Patti, playing golf and his duties as part-owner of the Penske team

"What I'm going to have to do is just get in and go, and figure it out as I go," Wallace said. "We'll adjust as the year goes on. I've never gone one year in my life where I've been able to plan two vears ahead. For me, to plan two weeks ahead is pretty tough for

"There will be a lot of excitement. Sometimes there will be tears in your beer."

#### NEXTEL CUP

#### Race 2: UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400 Las Vegas Speedway 8 p.m. Sunday CET. AFN-Pacific.

Last race: Greg Biffle took the lead on lap 228 and held off a hard-charging Jimmie Johnson to win the Auto Club 500 at Fontana, Calif., on Feb. 27. Biffle twice came hack from as far as 30th place

Last year: Matt Kenseth won his second straight race by taking the UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400.

#### Driver to watch: Matt Kenseth



| Kurt Busch           | .34 |
|----------------------|-----|
| Jimmie Johnson       | .33 |
| Mark Martin          |     |
| Carl Edwards         |     |
| Greg Biffle          |     |
| Elliott Sadler       |     |
| . Tony Stewart       |     |
| Rusty Wallace        |     |
| Sterling Marlin      | .26 |
| 0. Jeff Gordon       |     |
| 1. Dale Jarrett      | .24 |
| 2. Ryan Newman       |     |
| 3. Kevin Harvick     | .23 |
| 4. Dale Earnhardt Jr |     |
| 5. Mike Bliss        | .23 |
| 6. Kyle Petty        | .23 |
| 7. Jamie McMurray    | .22 |
| B. Scott Riggs       | .22 |
|                      |     |

#### BUSCH SERIES

IFN-Sports). Last race: Defending champion Martin ruex Jr. held on after an early pit stop to vin the Telcel-Motorola 200 in Mexico City, m the Telcel-Motorola 200 in Mexico City ne circuit's first race outside the U.S. Next race: Aaron's 312, March 19, Hamp

#### FORMULA ONE

ange. Next race: Malaysian Grand Prix, March

route to a dominant win in the s opening Toyota Indy 300 at Homeste

Last race: Steve Park earned his first truck Last race: Steve Park earned ins inst trues series win by taking the American Racing Wheels 200 at Fontana, Calift, on Feb. 25. Park's previous victory came in the Nextel Cup series in February 2001, seven months before he suffered a serious head injury. Next race: World Financial Group 200, Next race: World Fit March 18, Hampton, Ga.

Standings for other series on Page 32.

# Congress subpoenas 7 baseball players

BY HOWARD FENDRICH The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Major League Baseball might be convinced that its new, get-tough policy is enough to rid the sport

of steroids.

Congress, apparently, is not.

Congress, apparently, is mor. Less than two months after baseball and its players halled the banned-substances plan— and just a week after testing began at spring training— a House committee called in a handful of the sport's biggest stars to explain themselves, including Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa.

Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa. Baseball balked at the subpoenas issued Wednesday for a total of seven players to testify at the March 17 hearing of the House Government Reform Committee and vowed to take the fight to court, if necessary. The committee also demanded a vaviety of documents and records of baseball's drug tests.

starley Brand, a lawyer for the baseball commissioner's office, said the committee had no jurisdiction, was trying to violate baseball's first amendment privacy rights, and was attempting to "satisfy their prurient interest into who may and may not have engaged in this activity."

nave engaged in this activity.

Reacting to Brand's comments, committee spokesman David Marin said: "Mr. Brand has his facts wrong. He failed to recognize that House rules give this committee the authority to investigate any matter at any time, and we are authorized to request or compel testimony and document production related to any investigation.

"It's a shame that Major League Base

# Panel chair calls for all U.S. sports to adopt a single drug-testing plan

ball has resorted to hiding behind 'legalese' — and inaccurate 'legalese' at

On Thursday, the chairman of a House panel said that all major U.S. sports leagues should work toward a single test-

"Our elite athletic organizations, both professional and amateur, should establish uniform, world-class, drug-testing standards that are as consistent and robust as our criminal laws in this area," said Rep. Cliff Steams, R-Fla. "Nothing less should be tolerated."

Stearns' comments came at the opening of a hearing of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee he chairs. Labor law-yers from Major League Baseball and the National Football League were to testify

art the other players subpoensed to appear next week were Jose Canseco — who recently published a book outlining allegations of steroid use by McGwire and others — Jason Giambi, Curt Schilling, Rafael — Plamierio and Prank Thomas. Also called were players' association head Donald Ferh, baseball executive vice presidents Rob Manfred and Sandy Alderson, and San Delgo Padres general manager Kevin TowCanseco, Fehr and Manfred have agreed to testify, with Manfred appearing on behalf of commissioner Bud Selig. Before the subpoenas were issued, Brand told the committee the other players were declining invitations to appear.

It wasn't immediately clear whether the hearing will take place as scheduled.

Under pressure from Congress and under the shadow of a grand Jury investigation into an alleged steroid-distribution ring, Major League Baseball and its players' association agreed in January to a tougher steroid-testing program. The agreement will suspend first-time offenders for 10 days and randomly test players wear-pound.

Ownership and the union patted themselves on the back when the deal was struck, with Fehr saying at the time: "I will be surprised if over time this doesn't take care of the problem virtually completely."

Even Sen. John McCain, who had threatened baseball with legislation if it didn't strengthen its drug policy, sounded satisfied back in January: "It appears to be a significant breakthrough."

On Saturday, Selig announced that the number of positive tests for steroids in baseball dropped to between 1 to 2 percent last season

"I am very confident that we will effec-

tively rid our sport of steroids in this coming season" he said

ing season," he said.
But committee chairman Rep. Tom
Davis and ranking Democrat Rep, Henry
Waxman said in a statement Wednesday
that "we need to better understand the
steps MLB is taking to get a handle on the
steroid issue, and whether news of those
steps — and the public health danger
posed by steroid use — is reaching America's youth."

Stearns' House Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection subcommittee also was scheduled to hear from Donald Hooton of Plano, Texas, whose son was a steroid user and committed suicide, and Dr. Ralph Hale, chairman of the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency, which oversees drug testing for Olympic sports.

Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman, Joe Barton, R-Texas, said this could be the first of a series of hearings on the issue and that at some point subpoenas might be issued for commissioners of the major sports leagues.

"The time has come to put an end to this mess and reclaim sports as competition," he said

Barton said use of performance-enhancing drugs is tainting sports and its stars, noting that as San Francisco Giants star Barry Bonds pursues the career home run record there are questions about whether he has been aided by steroids.

"With Babe Ruth, people didn't worry about him taking steroids. They worried him eating another hot dog," Barton said.

Associated Press Writer Larry Margasak in Washington and AP Sports Writer Ronald Blum in New York contributed to this report.

# Bonds works on fielding skills

The Associated Press

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — Barry Bonds' swing looks ready to be tested in an exhibition game. The status of his recovering right knee remains uncertain.

Bonds took batting practice for the third straight day Wednesday and also shagged flyballs in left field for the first time all spring, a sign that he's progressing in his rehabilitation from arthroscopic knee surgery on Jan. 31.

The San Francisco slugger had four turns in the batter's box at Scottsdale Stadium before the rest of the Giants headed to Phoenix to play the Oakland Athletics.

With hitting coach Joe Lefebvre looking on, Bonds hit four home runs, all to right field or right-center. One hit a tree.

"It's like Ted Williams used to hit," manager Felipe Alou said. "He picks up the bat, hits line drives and puts the ball over the fence. He's still favoring his knee a bit, but the timing is there."

Between hitting sessions, Bonds smiled as he leaned against the backstop, and took a few practice swings while waiting his turn.

Bonds hollered at himself in frustration after some swings, but made contact on nearly everything he saw.

In left field, he shagged balls for about five minutes, even making a behind-the-back catch. The 40-year-old Bonds expects to be ready for opening day April 5 against the Los Angeles Dodgers. Back at his locker for a brief

Back at his locker for a bri break to change shoes for a work

# Spring training out and to undergo rehab on his

knee, Bonds let out a sigh and said, "I'm too tired." Bonds begins his 20th big league season with 703 homers,

Bonds begins his 20th big league season with 703 homers, third on the career list behind Babe Ruth (714) and Hank Aaron (755).

Af Mesa, Ariz, rather than risking serious injury, Kerry Wood figured it was safer to cut short his
start after experiencing tightness
in his shoulder. Wood felt tightness during the second inning of
the Chicago Cubs' 6-5 loss to the
Texas Rangers, but finished the inning. He stopped which warming
field after talking with a trainer.
He called his exit from the game
"precautionary."

"The iming before, I felt tightness in the shoulder," Wood said. "Everything felt great. I came in and sat down, and everything felt great. It was just a little bit of tightness, and it's too early to be messing around with anything right now. We thought it would be best to shut it down for the day."

Wood missed the entire 1999 season after undergoing Tommy John surgery and he was out for two nouths lastered with tendinitis in his right triceps. Wood was examined Wednesday by a team doctor and Cubs trainer Mark O'Neal, who described the ailment as "generic shoulder tight-

Wood said he would be able to make his scheduled start Monday against the Chicago White Sox. At Sarasota, Fla., the Cincinnati Reds announced center fielder Ken Griffey Jr. will play Thursday for the first time this spring after taking a slow approach to his rehabilitation from a torn hamtiffer. The Reds and the training of the training the spring of the control o

"It gives me a chance to see some live pitches, to work more on timing," Griffey said.

At Fort Myers, Fla., the Boston Red Sox expect Wade Miller to miss the first month of the season while he rehabilitates from a shoulder injury. He spent the last three months of last season on the disabled list with Houston. The Red Sox, hoping he could improve a rotation that lost Pedro Martinez and Derek Lowe, signed him as a free agent.

"I know I don't want to miss that much time again," Miller said. "So I decided to take it slow now and miss the beginning of the season and, hopefully, come back for the last five months."

Heavy rains across Florida prompted the cancellation of all 10 exhibition games scheduled for Wednesday.

In Kissimmee, Roger Clemens threw 60 pitches in a simulated game rather than wait to see if the Houston Astros and Atlanta Braves would play.

Royals 6, Mariners 0: At Surprise, Jose Lima gave up five sin-



Giants outfielder Barry Bonds, who is recovering from knee surgery, took part in fielding drills Wednesday for the first time this spring.

gles and walked three in three innings for Kansas City. Angel Berroa had three hits — two doubles — two RRIs and two runs scored Athletics 5, Giants 1: At Phoenix, Giants ace Jason Schmidt allowed three hits in three innings with three strikeouts and a walk

# Receiver Coles happy to be a Jet again

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Laveranues Coles took some parting shots at the New York Jets when he left for Washington. Two years later, Coles is back in the good graces

of his old team.

Coles passed a physical with
the Jets on Wednesday, making
his trade from the Redskins complete after nearly two weeks of
on-again, off-again talks. In return, the Redskins get former
first-round pick Santana Moss,
who has yet to live up to his poten-

tial. When Coles was done with his exam at team headquarters in Hempstead, N.Y. he saw Chad Pennington and gave the quarterback a bear hug. For Coles, it was good to be back with the Jets, where he started his career and developed a strong relationship with coach Herman Edwards and

Pennington.

"The guys here are all excited being here and that's what's important," Coles said on a conference call. "When I was here I really enjoyed myself. This is where I started and I had a great relationship with everyone here, so it was very good for me to come back."

very good for me to come back."
His relationship with Edwards
appeared to turn sour when Coles
left the Jets in 2003, after the
team failed to match a lucrative
offer from the Redskins. Coles
criticized Edwards because he
was given multiple assurances
the team would keep him, but has
since apologized.

"Well, back then I was very immature about the business side of it and now I understand it," Coles said. "But I think my emotions got involved and I said some things I shouldn't have said."

Coles might not be the only other player on the move. Two-time NFL rushing champion



Edgerrin James could wind up on the trading block. Also Wednesday, Keenan McCardell re-signed with San Diego, Ricky Proehl decided to return to Carolina for his 16th season, and tight end Jermaine Wiggins re-signed with Minnesota.

It didn't take long for Coles to voice his displeasure in Washington, where he was unhappy with the conservative offense of new coach Joe Gibbs last season and asked for a trade. Coles would only say he felt "uncomfortable" with the team, but said he and Gibbs are still on good terms.

There were questions about a chronic toe injury that hampered Coles the last two seasons. The Redskins wanted him to have surgery, but Coles was reluctant to undergo any procedure. Coles refused to elaborate about the toe, saying only that he passed his physical.

James could end up being a big bargain for someone. Agent Drew Rosenhaus says the Indianapolis Colts aren't demanding a first-round draft pick in exchange

for the star running back.
James, the Colts' career rushing leader, was designated the team's franchise player last month. Now Rosenhaus, who said he spoke with Colts president Bill Polian on Wednesday, is looking

"The bottom line is that I talked to the Colts today, and he doesn't think he can get a long-term deal done," Rosenhaus said.

Polian told The Associated Press he would not discount trading James, who has carried a franchise-record 1.828 times. more



Wide receiver Laveranues Coles passed his physical on Wednesday, making his trade from the Washington Redskins back to the New York Jets complete.

than all but four of the NFL's top 10 rushers had in their first six years. He is just 26 and coming off his best season since tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in

his left knee in 2001.

James rushed for 1,548 yards and nine touchdowns, caught 51 passes for 483 yards and earned his third selection to the AFC Pro

Bowl team in 2004.

The non-exclusive franchise tag would cost the Colts slightly more than \$8 million. If another team signed James and the Colts did not match the offer within seven days, Indianapolis would

get two first-round draft picks.
McCardell, 35, got the payday
he was seeking in San Diego, with
a \$4.1 million signing bonus, according to a source with knowledge of the deal who spoke on condition of anonymity. With the extension, McCardell will average

\$3.45 million the next three years.

McCardell was the NFL's last
holdout in 2004, missing the first
six games — and nearly \$710,000
in pay — because he was unhap-

py the Bucs didn't give him the "fair market" deal he wanted. He was traded to San Diego on Oct.

Proehl, who turned 37 Monday, had been contemplating retirement since late last season, but decided to play a final year after a lengthy meeting with Panthers coach John Fox.

Wiggins found a home in Minnesota, where he had 71 catches for 705 yards and four touchdowns. The 30-year-old tight end agreed to a five-year, \$7.3 million contract.

Arizona re-signed defensive end Peppi Zellner to a two-year contract and released quarterback Shaun King and wide receiver Karl Williams.

Atlanta signed linebacker and Pro Bowl special teams player Ike Reese. The 6-foot-2, 222-pound Reese, who spent seven seasons in Philadelphia, is considered one of the best special teams players in the NFL.

Baltimore cut cornerback Corey Fuller, a 10-year veteran, and special teams ace Harold Morrow.

Morrow.

The New York Giants, who lost
Kurt Warner to Arizona, signed
11-year veteran Jim Miller as a
backup to Eli Manning.

Linebacker Donnie Spragan signed a two-year, \$2 million deal with the Miami Dolphins, agent Angelo Wright said. In deals on Thursday:

■ Pittsburgh Steelers kicker Jeff Reed signed a \$7.5 million, five-year contract that includes a \$1.5 million signing bonus to stay

with the team.

The deal was agreed to earlier this week.

■ The New Orleans Saints signed free-agent tight end Shad Meier to a two-year deal and re-signed defensive tackle Howard Green to a one-year deal.

#### Davis: Army star also famous for his modesty

DAVIS FROM BACK PAGE

"I wasn't the kind of guy who liked to pick the newspaper up to find out how I was doing. I just did my thing the best I could," Davis told the AP in 1995. "We played offense and defense and it wasn't an individual accomplishment. We all won or lost together," he said in 1999.

Davis, who also lettered in baseball, track and basketball, visited West Point for the final time in October to be inducted into Army's Sports Hall of

Fame.

Born in Claremont, Davis attended college with his late twin brother, Ralph, and late worked as a special events director for the Los Angeles Times for nearly 30 years after leaving football.

Several years ago, he donated his Heisman to his high school.

Besides his son, Davis is survived by his third wife, Yvonne Ameche Davis, and a stepson, John S. Slack III from his second marriage. Davis' first marriage to Oscar-nominated actress Terry Moore ended in divorce after 14 months.

Davis, who also briefly dated Elizabeth Taylor, met Yvonne at the 1996 Heisman dinner. She was previously married to 1954 Heisman winner Alan Ameche of Wiscon-

Associated Press writers Beth Harris and John Nadel contributed to this report.

# Steelers hoping salary maneuvers won't hurt them later

BY ALAN ROBINSON

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Pittsburgh Steelers owner Dan Rooney is credited with largely designing the NFL salary cap system that went into effect in 1993, and his team has long been one of its most faithful followers.

At least the Steelers were until three years ago, when they began to routinely restructure contracts to get them under the cap — a strategy that proved the undoing of other prominent NFL franchises, including the Redskins, Ravens, Jaguars and Titans.

The Steelers spent most of last season only a few hundred thousand dollars under the cap, and they were forced to cut cornerback Chad Scott and tight end Jay Riemersma last month to get under the \$85.5 million cap that went into effect last week. Since then, they have restruc-

Since then, they have restructured the contracts of at least four starters: center Jeff Hartings, linebacker Clark Haggans, running back Duce Staley and linbacker James Farrior. They also backer James Farrior. They also bettis: outract for the second year in a row, after he agreed to a salary cut from \$4.484 million to \$1.5 million nulss incertives.

Hartings, for example, was to have made \$4.2 million in base salary. But according to the NFL Players Association, he will now make \$665,000. He accepted the remaining \$3,535,000 as a signing bonus that, for cap purposes, can

be spread over each of the next two seasons.

But all this maneuvering can extract a price, if not in the short term then in the long term, when years of salary cap shaving can capsize an organization.

For the Steelers, it means a team that went 15-1 last season and was one victory away from the Super Bowl must settle for second-tier talent on the open market, rather than stars such as cornerback Samari Rolle or wide receiver Mulsin Mulsamad

When they cut Scott, the best they could do was re-sign former backup Willie Williams, who played surprisingly well last season, but hasn't been a full-season NFL starter since 2001.

They also replaced defense-stretching wide receiver Plaxico Burress with Cedrick Wilson, who is 7 inches shorter than Burress and is not the deep threat Rurress !

The lack of cap room also means the Steelers are devoting millions of dollars of salary cap space to players who no longer play for them. Linebacker Jason Gildon, who hasn't played for them in 15 months, counts \$2.6 million against their 2005 cap.

Director of football operations

Kevin Colbert insists the Steelers are not being crushed by the cap and will never be forced to jettison a large number of key players just to stay under the cap, as the Titans recently did by releasing six players.

"We are never going to lock ourselves out from a salary cap standpoint," Colbert said. "You can always make it work."

Even if it's getting harder for the Steelers to make it work.

Hartings, for example, is almost certainly playing his final season in Pittsburgh despite being an All-Pro center in '04.

Because he restructured his contract in each of the last two seasons by converting salary into signing bonuses, Hartings will count \$7.7 million against the Steelers' 2006 cap if he plays far too much for them to devote to a player who doesn't man a skill position.



TCU stops

Marquette;

DePaul's

# Bye-bye, BC

#### West Virginia bounces ACC-bound Eagles from Big East tournament

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Mike Gansey scored 21 points and West Virginia hung on to upset No. 7 Boston College 78-72 in the Big East tournament Thursday, ruining the Eagles' bid for a final conference championship.

Kevin Pittsnogle added 17

points for the Mountaineers Big (20-9), who very East likely wrapped up an NCAA tournament

at-large bid with the surprising victory over the Big East's top

West Virginia, seeded No. 8, improved to 3-8 in the tournament and advanced to its first semifinal - against the winner of the Villanova-Pittsburgh game - Friday night at Madison Square Garden

Craig Smith scored 20 points and grabbed eight rebounds for Boston College (24-4), which leaves the Big East for the Atlantic Coast Conference after this season. The Eagles, who shared the regular-season title with Connecticut, sputtered through their last eight games, going just 4-4 and possibly hurting their chance of a top-3 seed

West Virginia led 47-22 before BC rallied, closing within 62-58 before the Mountaineers put it away with three baskets inside the last minute

In Wednesday's games

Rutgers 72, Notre Dame 65: Ricky Shields scored 21 points, including the first four in a game-closing 8-0 run by Rutgers (10-18) The loss may have ended the

NCAA tournament at-large hopes for Notre Dame (17-11), which has lost four of five

Shields scored on a drive with 1:15 left to give the Scarlet Knights the lead for good at 66-65. He then stole the ball from Colin Falls and went the length of the court for a layup with 57 seconds left

Georgetown 56, Seton Hall 51: Darrel Owens was perfect on four three-point attempts and scored all 14 of his points over the final eight minutes as Georgetown (17-11) snapped a five-game losing streak

The seventh-seeded Hoyas had to win to have any chance at an at-large berth in the NCAA tournament. Their next opponent is second-seeded and 12th-ranked Connecticut (21-6) in the quarterfinals Thursday night.

first three-nointer Owens' ended a 7:42 drought without a field goal and brought the Hoyas within 44-36 with 7:59 left

His third three, with 3:37 left, cut the deficit to 49-46 and his last gave Georgetown the lead for good at 51-49 with 1:02 left

West Virginia 82, Providence 59: Kevin Pittsnogle matched his career high with five three-pointers and finished with 24 points for the Mountaineers (19-9) The eighth-seeded Mountain-

eers played top-seeded and sev-enth-ranked Boston College (24-3) on Thursday in the quarterfinals at Madison Square Garden.

West Virginia may have clinched an NCAA tournament berth with its seventh victory in nine games, a stretch that included two victories over nationally ranked Pittsburgh.



Rutgers' Ricky Shields (2) grabs a rebound away from Notre Dame's Chris Thomas (1) during Wednesday night's Big East tournament game at Madison Square Garden, Rutgers advanced with a 72-65 victory.

# skid ends ment Wednesday, keepiong alive the Horned Frogs' hopes of an NCAA tournament bid and severely damaging Marquette's

The Associated Press MEMPHIS, Tenn. - Corey Santee's three-pointer with 12.8 seconds gave Texas Christian a 60-57 overtime victory against Marquette in the opening round of the Conference USA tourna-

hones.

Aaron Curtis free throw tied it 57-57 with 18.8 seconds to go, leaving Mar-

quette (19-11) plenty of time to go for a final shot. But Marcus Sloan slapped away the inbounds pass

the last of Marquette's 23 turnovers - and got the ball to Santee for the deciding basket.

Marquette still had time for a tying shot, but Steve Novak mishandled the ball at the top of the key and couldn't get off a shot before time expired.

DePaul 81. Tulane 71: Sammy Mejia and Quemont Greer each scored 18 points as DePaul (19-9) snapped a two-game losing streak just in time to keep its NCAA tournament hopes alive.

Drake Diener added 14 points for DePaul and Draelon Burns had 10 points.

Tulane (10-18) had snapped a five-game winning skid by beating East Carolina last weekend to earn the No. 12 seed, but the Green Wave had little left for the tournament.

Tulane closed to 37-30 with 2:11 left in the half, but Diener hit two three-pointers and Burns ed another three with 39.7 seconds left for a 46-32 halftime lead. DePaul eventually pushed the margin to 65-46 after a bucket by Jamal Nichols with 12:34 to go and coasted home

# La Salle tips Massachusetts in overtime

CINCINNATI - Jermaine Thomas and Mike St. John scored all 11 points in overtime to lead La Salle to a 70-64 victory over Massachusetts in the first round of the Atlantic 10 tournament.

La Salle (10-18), which finished last in the conference's West Division, played the last two minutes of regulation and the overtime neriod without leading scorer Steven Smith, who left with an eve injury after scoring 19 points.

St. John broke a 61-61 tie with a reverse layup after his first shot was blocked. He was 4-for-4 in overtime, and Thomas hit three ree throws in four attempts in the final 49.9 seconds.

Rashaun Freeman had 19 points for UMass (16-12), which came from 12 down to force overtime. The Minutemen had won five games in overtime this season, one short of the NCAA record set by Wake Forest in 1983-1984.

Richmond 68. Rhode Island 60: Kevin Steenberge scored 22

#### Conference tourneys

points as Richmond (14-14) won an Atlantic 10 tournament matchup of teams with losing records.

Jermaine Bucknor added 17
points and Andres Sandoval

added 10, six coming on free throws in the final minute

Will Daniels had 22 points for Rhode Island (6-22), which lost 11 of its last 13 games and finished 1-13 away from home.

Fordham 65, Duquesne 53: Freshman Marcus Stout scored a season-high 31 points and Fordham (13-15) finally earned an Atlantic 10 tournament victory in its 10th try

Fordham had lost the opener each year since joining the confer-ence in the 1995-1996. Duquesne (8-22) was 0-for-21

on three-pointers and lost for the third time in four games Dayton 78, St. Bonaventure

48: Norman Plummer scored 18 points and Dayton (18-10) earned a rematch with Temple in the second round of the A-10 tourney. Dayton (18-10), which finished third in the West Division.

dropped a 78-70 decision last month to Temple, which was second in the East Division. Michael Lee scored 14 points

for St. Bonaventure (2-26).

#### **Big West**

UC Irvine 80, Idaho 67: At Anaheim, Calif., Aaron Fitzgerald scored a career-high 30 points on 9-for-15 shooting to lead UC Irvine into the second round of the

UC Irvine (16-12), seeded fifth, plays fourth-seeded Cal State Northridge in the second round.

Idaho (8-22) closed within three after Lionel Davis completed a three-point play with 2:26 to play, but Fitzgerald stopped the rally with his sixth three-pointer of the game, putting the Anteaters up 73-67 with 1:59 to play.

UC Santa Barbara 55, Long Beach St. 49: Joe See scored 19 points — 14 in the second half —

12-point second-half deficit.

See, held without a field goal in the first half, went 3-for-4 from behind the three-point line in the second half for the Gauchos

Long Beach (10-20) led 43-31 with 12:32 to play after an 11-1 run featuring eight points by Jibril Hodges, Santa Barbara reponded by scoring the next 11 noints, the start of a 21-3 surge.

#### Hampton 81, Florida A&M

72: At Richmond, Va., Jeff Granger scored 26 points and Devin Green added 24 as Hampton (16-12) advanced to the second round of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference tournament.

Delaware St. 66 thune-Cookman 43: Darrin Shine scored 13 points and Aaron Williams and Jahsha Bluntt each added 12 to lead Delaware State (17-13), which jumped to a 17-3 lead and cruised from there over Bethune-Cookman (6-20).

#### Rodney Carney ended his shoot-ing slump with 23 points and Jere-my Hunt added 22 for Memphis (17-14), which ended a four-game losing streak that doomed its hopes for an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament Carney, who'd missed 18 of his

Memphis 79, Saint Louis 59:

last 19 shots missed only one of nine Wednesday and hit all three of his three-point attempts.

Luke Meyer had 12 points to lead Saint Louis (9-21), which got no closer than 20 points in the

South Florida 69, Houston 64: Terrence Leather, who finished with 25 points and 14 rebounds, hit a basket to snap a 64-64 tie with 26 seconds left and the Bulls (13-15) ended the NCAA hopes of Houston (18-13) and first-year coach Tom Penders.

Houston has lost eight straight games in March dating back to March 1 2003

Lanny Smith finished with 21 points for Houston.

# Montana, Fairleigh Dickinson join the fun



Montana's Matt Dlouhy (40) blocks a shot by Weber State's Lance Allred during the first half of the Big Sky Conference tournament final.

The Associated Press

PORTLAND. Ore. first-year coach Larry Krystkow iak sees it, the Montana Grizzlies are in the best possible position heading into the NCAA tournament. They're riding a six-game winning streak and they've al-ready tasted a higher level of play against opponents such as Stanford and Gonzaga

"I'm not sure we can compete with everybody, but we're going to go down swinging," he said. "We've got a game plan now, and we're going to take our best shot."

Montana earned a bid to the NCAA tournament by holding off Weber State's late rally for a 63-61 victory in the Big Sky Conference title game Wednesday night. Kamarr Davis had 19 points for the Grizzlies, who are making their first trip to the tournament since 2002, when they were eliminated in the first round by Oregon. Montana, which claimed its

fifth Big Sky postseason title, didn't have it easy against Weber State, methodically which chipped away at a 10-point second-half deficit

Montana was up 54-44 with 4:17 left after Virgil Matthews

The Wildcats narrowed it to on Terrell Stovall's three-pointer with 1:03 left. Mon-

#### Conference finals

tana's Kevin Criswell missed a layup before Stovall was called for an offensive foul on the other end and the Grizzlies got the ball. Matt Martin made both his free

throws after getting fouled with 14.4 seconds left to make it 62-58. but Weber State's Coric Riggs hit a three-pointer with 4.2 seconds remaining. Davis was fouled with 2.8 seconds to go and added drama by missing his first free throw before hitting his second for the final margin.

"We just needed to keep our heads," Davis said. "Play hard, play smart and play together like coach has been preaching all vear," he said.

Krystkowiak screamed and raised his hands in victory as his players celebrated at center

A 78-62 loss to Gonzaga and an 84-66 loss to Stanford merely served to toughen the Grizzlies. "We're better now," Krystkow-iak said. "We had a new staff and new players and were not sure

where to hang our hats." Criswell and Martin each added 11 points for the Grizzlies (18-12), who defeated Montana State 79-67 in the semifinals Tues-

Lance Allred had 21 points and 12 rebounds for Weber State (14-16), which upset top-seeded Portland State 71-61 to advance

"We had things going in the st half and couldn't finish it off," Weber State coach Joe Cra-vens said. "It's disappointing because we didn't play the way we have been '

#### Northeast

Fairleigh Dickinson 58, Wag-ner 52: At Hackensack, N.J., Italy's Andrea Crosariol took advantage of an injury to Wagner's best player to score 18 points and lead the second-seeded Knights to their first NCAA berth in seven years. The 7-foot center's perfor-mance was two points off Crosariol's career high — and totally un-expected. He scored just two points in 31 minutes in the previous two tournament games, in-cluding zero in a semifinals.

Crosariol provided the big push oing against Sean Munson, the eahawks' leading scorer and rebounder. Munson averaged 17.5 points and 12 rebounds in two ear-lier games against Fairleigh Dickinson (20-8), but he was slowed by back spasms.

Durell Vinson had 14 points and eight rebounds for Wagner (13-17), which was trying to cap an amazing turnaround after a 2-15 start.

### Seeding, at-large slots no small chore this year

BY MICHAEL MAROT The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - Choosing 34 teams to receive at-large bids to the NCAA tournament is always a difficult chore for the selection committee

Committee chairman Bowlsby believes the more daunting task this year will be seeding the field of 65.

On Wednesday, one day before the 10 committee members began meeting in Indianapolis, Bowlsby acknowledged in a conference call that sorting out the top half of the 65-team field might create the most debate.

"Between lines two and eight. it's going to be pretty muddy," Bowlsby said. "We've got a lot of work to do there.'

The challenge has already begun.

Coaches at schools like Indiana and New Mexico are lobbying for spots in the tournament.

Analysts are arguing how to split up the three Atlantic Coast Conference teams ranked among the nation's top five. No. 4 Kentucky and No. 6 Louisville have now taken their bitter in-state rivalry to a national level which could have big implications when this year's pairings are an-

nounced Sunday.
Want more? Try Oklahoma
State and Kansas, two teams that stumbled late in the season but which played in the Big 12 — a conference Bowlsby said has the No. 2 power ranking. At this stage, the committee in-

sists nothing, not even Illinois as a top seed, is certain.

'While Illinois has had a great season, I don't think it's a foregone conclusion that they or any-body else is a No. 1 seed," Bowlsby said. "There's still a lot of basketball to be played."

Most of the major conference tournaments won't end until this weekend, making the committee's predicament even tougher.

Bowlsby, Iowa's athletic director whose Hawkeyes also are in contention for a bid, said the committee will closely monitor this week's games, especially those that pit teams like Indiana and Minnesota against one another. Both are so-called bubble teams and will meet for the third time Friday after splitting the first two meetings.

But it's not just the teams trying to get into the tournament that the committee will watch.

"There are times where we might say 'If A wins, we'll put them on the three line, and if B wins, we'll put them on the three line and A on the four line. Bowlsby said.

Everything appears debatable. The final choices will almost certainly draw some complaints. After five years on the commit-tee, Bowlsby expects nothing

"I think there's more parity in college basketball and I think it's a better game. That makes it tougher," he said. "The selection process is like a block-charge call, somebody will always be un-

#### Conference tournaments

#### America East

Championship Saturday Northeastern at Vermont

#### **Atlantic Coast**

Thursday
Clemson 84, Maryland 72
North Carolina St. vs. Florida St.
Miami vs. Virginia
Friday
Month Carolina vs. Clemson Friday North Carolina vs. Clemson Virginia Tech vs. Georgia Tech Wake Forest vs. N.C. State/Florida St.

Championship

#### Atlantic 10

Wednesday Richmond 68, Rhode Island 60 La Salle 70, Massachusetts 64, OT La Salle 70, Massachusetts 54, Fordham 65, Duquesne 53, Dayton 78, St. Bonaventure 48

Thursday
Saint Joseph's 63, Richmond 51
Xavier vs. La Salle
Geo. Washington vs. Fordham
Temple vs. Dayton
Friday

Semifinals Semifinals

#### **Big East**

Wednesday West Virginia 82, Providence 59 West Virginia 82, Providence 59 Georgetown 56, Seton Hall 51 Rutgers 72, Notre Dame 65 Quarterfinals Thursday West Virginia 78, Boston College 72 Villanova vs. Pittsburgh

West Virginia Villanova vs. Pittsburgh Connecticut vs. Georgeti Syracuse vs. Notre Dame Friday Semifinals

Saturday

#### Big Sky

#### Big Ten

Championship

Saturday Sunday

Thursday Missouri 70, Nebraska 67 Iowa State vs. Baylor

Texas A&M vs. Kansas State Texas vs. Colorado Friday Priday
Oklahoma vs. Missouri
Texas Tech vs. Iowa State/Baylor
Kansas vs. Texas A&M/Kansas State

Semifinals

#### **Big West**

Wednesday
UC Irvine 80, Idaho 67
UC Santa Barbara 55, Long Beach State 49
Thursday
Cal Fullerton vs. UC Santa Barbara
Cal Northridge vs. UC Santa Barbara
Cal Northridge Friday

Championship

#### Conference USA

Wednesday
Texas Christian 60, Marguette 57, OT Texas Christian 60, Marquett DePaul 81, Tulane 71 Memphis 79, Saint Louis 59 South Florida 69, Houston 64 Thursday Louisville 85, TCU 61 Ala.-Birmingham vs. ue. ... Charlotte vs. Memphis Cincinnati vs. South Florida Friday

Championship

#### Mid-American

Thursday Buffalo 85, Toledo 72 W, Michigan vs. Akron Miami (Ohio) vs. Bowling Green Miami (Ohio) vs. .... Ohio vs. Kent State Friday

Mid-Eastern Athletic

#### Wednesday Delaware State 66. Bethune-Cookman 43

Hampton 81, Florida A&M 72 Thursday South Carolina St. vs. Norfo Coppin St. vs. Morgan State Friday nlk St Championship Saturday

#### Mountain West

Thursday do St. Utah vs. Colorado St. UNLV vs. Wyoming New Mexico vs. Brigham Young Air Force vs. San Diego St. Friday
Utah/Colorado State vs. UNLV/Wyomir
New Mexico/BYU vs. Air Force/San Diego
Saturday
Championship Championship

#### Northeast

#### Pac-10

Thursday
Arizona vs. California
UCLA vs. Oregon State
Washington vs. Arizona State
Stanford vs. Washington State
Friday Semifinals

#### Saturday **Patriot**

Championship Friday Bucknell at Holy Cross

#### Southeastern

Thursday Mississippi 53, South Carolina 52 Mississippi State vs. Georgia Mississippi state v.a. ... Arkansas vs. Tennessee Vanderbilt vs. Auburn Friday Alabama vs. Mississippi

Championship

#### Southland Thursday Semifinals western St

Lamar at Northwestern State Sam Houston State at SE Louisiana Sunday Championship

#### **Southwestern Athletic**

Thursday Jackson St. 57, Mississippi Valley 55 Grambling vs. Soutnern Alabama St. vs. Prairie View A&M Alabama A&M vs. Ark. Pine Bluff

Championship

#### Western Athletic

Thursday Texas-El Paso vs. Hawaii

Semifinals Championship Saturday

# **Suns avoid sweep** by depleted Spurs

PHOENIX - Despite getting a coveted win that kept the San Antonio Spurs from sweeping them this season, the Phoenix Suns aren't likely to get overconfident if the teams meet in the playoffs.



points to lead the Suns to a 107-101 victory against the Spurs, who were playing without in

iured All-Stars Tim Duncan (ankle) and Manu Ginobili (groin).

"I wanted them to play at full strength, to be honest with you," Stoudemire said.

However, it was still satisfying to the Suns, who snapped their longest current losing streak to one team.

Since beating Phoenix in a playoff game on April 27, 2003, the Spurs had won six consecutive regular-season games and two playoff contest against the Suns.

'It takes a little momentum out of you when they are not play-ing," Phoenix's Shawn Marion said. "But at the same time we went out and got the win, and that's all that matters

Suns coach Mike D'Antoni said not to read too much into the ragged, tight game

They are an NBA team, and it is hard to play those teams," he said. "They played a small lineup the whole time, and they had nothing to lose "

The coveted victory wasn't locked up until Stoudemire, who had 13 points in the fourth quarter dunked for a 105-98 lead with 1:19 to go on a play that began with Steve Nash missing a short iumper.

Marion deflected the rebound to Joe Johnson, who shoveled it to Stoudemire underneath.

Just before that play, Tony Massenberg and Tony Parker missed layups that would have lifted the Spurs within three points.

"We definitely ran out of gas in the fourth quarter." said Parker. who had a season-high 30 points despite going scoreless in fourth.
"It just got harder and harder to make stops and get rebounds.

Celtics 95, Hawks 91: Antoine Walker stole the ball from Al Harrington with 35 seconds left and fed Ricky Davis for the clinching basket as host Boston withstood unusually feisty Atlanta.

The Hawks, who have the worst record in the NBA and just two road wins in 32 tries, led for the first 42 minutes and didn't trail until Paul Pierce hit a fallaway jumper with 3:53 left.

Pierce finished with 27 points and 10 rebounds, making 10 of 12 free throws in the fourth quarter to ice the game

Walker had 15 points and nine rebounds for the Celtics, who are 5-1 since getting him from Atlanta at the trading deadline.

Raptors 106, Magic 96: At Toronto, Chris Bosh had 15 points and 15 rebounds, and six other Toronto players reached double figures in scoring. Dwight

Orlando rookie Orlando rookie Dwight Howard had 17 points and tied a season-high with 20 rebounds for the Magic, who have lost two straight following a three-game wining streak.

Morris Peterson and Rafer Alston each had a team-high 16 points for the Raptors, who are fighting to stay in the playoff race

Pistons 92, Warriors 88: Tayshaun Prince and Antonio McDyess scored 20 points each as host Detroit snapped a three-game losing streak. The Pistons lost the final three

games of a six-game West Coast trip, but were able to beat Golden State to extend their season-best

Boston Celtics' Antoine Walker slaps the ball away from Atlanta Hawks' Al Harrington during the fourth quarter of Boston's 95-91 win.

home win streak to eight. Baron Davis tied the game at

88 with a three-pointer with 1:48 to go, but after both teams missed on their next possessions, Rasheed Wallace's jumper put Detroit up two with 44.2 seconds left. Former Michigan State star Jason Richardson was fouled 6 seconds later, but missed both free throws, and Prince put the game away with a driving layup at the other end.

Nets 86. Hornets 85 (OT): At New Orleans, Jason Kidd's rebound of a blocked shot and driving layup as he was fouled with seconds left in overtime lifted

The Hornets had a chance to win when rookie J.R. Smith, who had been the Hornets best player of the night, was fouled on a three-point attempt with 1.5 sec-

onds to go. But Smith missed the first two foul shots, then tried to miss the third but ended up put-ting it in off the backboard, allow-New Jersey to inbound the all and run out the clock Vince Carter led the Nets with

24 points and 10 rebounds, while Kidd finished with 15 points and nine assists in rescuing the Nets from what nearly was their fourth straight loss.

Bulls 97, Trail Blazers 84: Eddy Curry had 25 points, Kirk Hinrich added 22 and the visiting Bulls reached their highest win total in seven years.

Chicago (31-27) surpassed the 30-win mark for the first time since their last championship season of 1997-98. Chicago, last won in Portland on Jan. 29 1998, has suffered through six consecutive losing seasons, but appear to be on the way to the

#### Lawyer must testify about brawl client

PONTIAC, Mich. - A lawyer for the man charged with throwing a chair during the Nov. 19 brawl at the game between the In-diana Pacers and Detroit Pistons must testify for the prosecution, a judge has ruled. Kenneth



Karasick had sought a court order to keen prosecutors from calling him to testify against his cli

ent, Bryant Jackson. Charges were filed against five Pacers players and seven Pistons fans, including the 35-year-old Jackson.

Prosecutors say that when Karasick met with Auburn Hills police to review a videotape of the fight, he told a detective, "That's our boy," when the chair thrower appeared on the screen.

On Wednesday, attorneys for Karasick argued that forcing him to testify would violate attor-ney-client privilege. Oakland County assistant prosecutor Paul Walton said that the privilege applied only to conversations Karasick had with Jackson, not those with the Auburn Hills detective.

Circuit Judge Rae Lee Chabot agreed with prosecutors but said they would have to limit their questioning of Karasick to what he said to police about the video, accord-ing to the Detroit Free Press and The Daily Oakland Press.

Mays' Nelson to miss 3 games DALLAS - Dallas Mavericks coach Don Nelson is once again turning the team over to assistant coach Avery Johnson, this time to be with his wife while she recov

ers from surgery. Nelson, the second-winningest coach in NBA history, will miss Thursday night's game at home against the Los Angeles Lakers then a road trip to Milwaukee and Minnesota

#### NBA scoreboard

#### Factors Confessors

| Lasteili   | Come   | 161  | ILE   |   |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| x-Miami<br>x-Detroit<br>x-Boston<br>Washington<br>Cleveland<br>Chicago<br>Orlando<br>Indiana | W 46<br>37<br>32<br>33<br>32<br>31<br>31<br>30 | 16<br>22<br>29<br>26<br>27<br>27<br>29<br>30 | Pct<br>.742<br>.627<br>.525<br>.559<br>.542<br>.534<br>.517<br>.500 | 77<br>131<br>111<br>121<br>13<br>14<br>15 |
| Philadelphia<br>New Jersey<br>New York<br>Toronto<br>Milwaukee<br>Charlotte<br>Atlanta       | 29<br>27<br>26<br>26<br>25<br>12<br>10         | 32<br>35<br>34<br>35<br>34<br>46<br>50       | .475<br>.435<br>.433<br>.426<br>.424<br>.207<br>.167                | 16!<br>19<br>19<br>19!<br>19!<br>32<br>35 |
| Wastarn  | Confe  | rei  | 100   |   |

| Western Conference   |                            |                            |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| x-Phoenix<br>x-San Antonio<br>x-Seattle<br>Dallas<br>Sacramento<br>Houston<br>Memphis<br>Denver                                | 39<br>38<br>35<br>34       | 18<br>20<br>24<br>25<br>26 | .770<br>.695<br>.661<br>.613 | GB<br>-<br>5<br>7<br>91/2<br>111/2<br>121/2<br>151/2 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Minnesota<br>L.A. Lakers<br>L.A. Clippers<br>Portland<br>Utah<br>Golden State<br>New Orleans<br>x-division leader<br>Wednesday | 27<br>22<br>20<br>19<br>13 | 34<br>37<br>40<br>42<br>47 | .217                         | 20<br>24<br>26½<br>28                                |  |  |  |  |  |
| Toronto 106, Orlando   | 96                         |                            |                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Boston 95, Atlanta 91 Detroit 92, Golden State 88 New Jersey 86, New Orleans 85, OT

Phoenix 107, San Antonio 101 Chicago 97, Portland 84 Thursday's games Minnesota at Miami L.A. Lakers at Dallas

Priday's games

Atlanta at Toronto

Golden State at Indiana
Charlotte at Philadelphia
Minnesota at Orlando
Detroit at Roston

nouston at Phoenix L.A. Clippers at Sacramento Chicago at Seattle Saturday's games New Jersey at Miami Golden State at Atlanta Golden State at Atlanta L.A. Lakers at Charlotte Milwaukee at New Orleans Denver at San Antoni Memphis at Portland

#### Wednesday Celtics 95, Hawks 91

ATLANTA — Harrington 9-21 3-4 21, J.Smith 2-6 0-0 4, Ekezie 1-9 8-8 10, Childress 4-7 6-6 14, Lue 8-14 7-7 25, Gugliotta 2-8 3-8 7, Drobn-lak 2-4 0-0 4, D.Smith 2-3 0-0 4, Ivey 1-2 0-0 2, Diaw 0-0 0-0 0, Coilier 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 31-74 27-33 91. — Somer v-0 0-0 0. Tótals 31-74 **BOSTON** — Walker 6-9 1-6 15, Pierce 8-14

11-13 27, LaFrentz 3-10-0-0, Payton 0-5-2-2, Allen 1-3 1-2 3, Davis 8-17 5-6 21, Blount 5-8

0-0 10, West 1-5-0 0-2, Jefferson 3-5-1-7, Reed 0-0 0-0 0, Banks 1-2 0-0 2. Totals 36-78

21-30 95.

Boston Three-Point Goals—Atlanta 2-8 (Lue 2-3, Drobnjak 0-1, Harrington 0-1, Gugliotta 0-3), Boston 2-14 (Walker 2-3, Pierce 0-1, Davis 0-1, Jefferson 0-1, Payton 0-1, LaFrentz 0-3,

West 0-4). Fouled Out—None. Rebounds—At-lanta 68 (Harrington 13), Boston 52 (Pierce 10). Assists—Atlanta 13 (Lue 5), Boston 24 (Davis 5). Total Fouls—Atlanta 23, Boston 24.

#### Raptors 106, Magic 96

ORLANDO — Turkoglu 6-17 6-7 21, Howard 8 7-10 17, Cato 3-8 0-2 6, Francis 9-22 9-11 1, Nelson 6-143-3 17, Battle 1-6 1-2 3, Steven

27) Netson 6-143-5 17, Battlet 1-8 1-73, Stevenson 6-14-12, Garrity 12-6-92, Augmon 1-1TORONITO - Rose 5-10-3 11, Booth 5-17-5-6
TORONITO - Rose 5-10-3 11, Booth 5-17-5
TORONITO - ROSE 5-10-3 11 shall 2-9, Rose 1-2, Alston 0-2), Fouled Out--None, Rebounds—Orlando 62 (Howard 20), Toronto 50 (Bosh 15). Assists—Orlando 13 (Francis 5), Toronto 22 (Rose 8). Total Fouls—Orlando 22, Toronto 25. Techni-cals—Orlando coach Davis, Battle, Francis. Flagrant foul—Howard. A—17,362 (19,800).

#### Pistons 92. Warriors 88

GOLDEN STATE — Dunleauy 5-11 4-6 15, Murphy 5-12 3-4 14, Foyle 4-6 0-8 Richardson 4-17 2-4 10, Fisher 2-7 3-7, Pietrus 2-5 white 0-2 0-0 0, Cabarriaga 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 3-77, 16-21 8-9, Pietrus 2-5 1-7, 16-7, Pietrus 2-5 1-7, Pietrus 2-7, Pietrus 2-7,

Detroit 22 22 30 18—92 Three-Point Goals—Golden State 6-22 (Davis 3-6, Dunleavy 1-2, Pietrus 1-2, Murphy 1-3, Fisher 0-3, Richardson 0-6), Detroit 2-8 1-3, Fisher 0-3, Richardson 0-6), Detroit 7-8 (Billups 2-4, Hamilton 0-1, Prince 0-1, RWal-lace 0-2). Fouled Out-None. Rebounds-s-Golden State 44 (Foyle 7), Detroit 64 (B.Wallace 16). Assists-Golden State 17 (Ri-chardson 5). Detroit 21 (Hamilton 7). Total Fouls-Golden State 26, Detroit 18. Techni-cals-Golden State Defensive Three Second, Detroit coach Brown. A—22,076. (22,076).

19 23 28 18-88 22 22 30 18-92

#### Nets 86, Hornets 85 (OT)

#### Suns 107, Spurs 101

SAN ANTONIO — Bowen 3-4 5-7 12, Horry 2-6 4-4 8, Nesterovic 6-9 0-0 12, T. Parker 14-31

2-4 30, Barry 2-7 0-0 5, Massenburg 3-9 3-4 9, Brown 4-13 5-7 13, Udrih 2-4 0-0 4, Wilks 3-6 2-2 8, Totals 39-89 21-28 101. PHOENIX — Richardson 0-0 0-0 0, Marion 9-14 0-0 18, Stoudemir 17-22 10-13 44, Nash 5-13 0-0 11, J

5-10 2-2 15, Jackson 1-4 0-0 3, Hunter 2-2 0-0 4, McCarty 0-2 0-0 0. Totals 44-84 13-17 107. San Antonio Phoenix 36 18 29 24-107 Three-Point Goals—San Antonio 2-15 Horry 0-1, Wilks 0-1 1), Phoenix 6-15 (Bar TPAIRE 03, Brown 23, 114TO Unit Wiles 04, 1058 a. 6, 1058 on 1.1, Nasil 1.2, Liohus 1.4, Marion 0-1, McCarty 0-1, Fouled Out-None. Rebounds—San Antonio 42 (Bowen, Brown, Nesterovic 6), Phoenix 99 (Marion 17), Assists—San Antonio 15 (TPAIRE 5), nio 16, Phoenix 23, Flagrant fouls—McCarty, A-18,422, (Lis 422).

#### **Bulls 97, Trail Blazers 84**

CHICAGO — Nocioni 5-13 4-4 14, Davis 3-5 2-2 8, Curry 12-19 1-2 25, Hinrich 8-17 4-6 22, Duhon 2-5 0-0 6, Chandler 4-9 1-4 9, Griffin 0-3 0-0 0, Gordon 3-12 0-0 8, Harrington 2-6 1-2 5, 

Frahm 0-1, Telfair 0-1), Fouled Out—None. Re bounds—Chicago 50 (Chandler 13), Portland 51 (Abdur-Rahim 10), Assists—Chicago 22 (Duhon 6), Portland 18 (Stoudamire 5). Tota Fouls—Chicago 23, Portland 16. Techni cals—Chicago Defensive Three Second 2. Fla grant fouls—Miles. A—14,251. (19,396)



Shaquille O'Neal (center) is not having a career season statistics-wise, but three of his teammates are, and the Eastern Conference-leading Miami Heat have improved by 20 victories in one season.

# Shaq's impact

#### Miami's center a top MVP candidate

BY ISRAEL GUTIERREZ

If the decision were left to Bulls coach Scott Skiles, Kevin Garnett wouldn't be coming into Miami on Thursday as the NBA's reigning Most Valuable Plaver.

"I'm of the school of thought that Shaq should be MVP every year," Skiles said before the Heat played the Bulls on Feb. 22.

Skiles' reasoning is that no player has an impact on his team like Shaquille O'Neal, making his value incomparable. If that is the criteria, O'Neal might have one of

his best cases to win the award.
Consider that last year's MVP,
Garnett, is entering the final
stretch of the season struggling
just to make the playoffs; Minnesota was the No. 1 seed in the
Western Conference last season.

The Heat, meanwhile, traded three integral parts of last year's playoff team to acquire O'Neal, and replaced them with complementary role players. The result thus far has been a 20-win improvement on a team now considered a legitimate title contender.

If that alone doesn't make him the front-runner to win the award, it at least places him among the favorites along with Steve Nash and Tim Duncan. Even without the eye-popping statistics for O'Neal this season, his value remains unquestioned.

"It's not just that he's better," Heat coach Stan Van Gundy said.
"As my brother (Rockets coach Jeff Van Gundy) says, Shaq just screws up the entire game. We see it every day in practice. There are drills we can't do if he's on offense because you can't play your normal defense against him and have any success. So if we want to work on our defense, I've got to put him on the Statirmaster."

When O'Neal won the MVP award in 2000, his statistics matched his impact. He averaged 29.7 points, 13.6 rebounds and 3.03 blocks.

By comparison, this season seems like a down one for O'Neal, who is scoring 22.4 points with 10.2 rebounds and 2.45 blocks. But there are more telling numbers to measure O'Neal's influence. Damon Jones, who has never averaged more than seven points a game, is averaging 11.4 this season. Christian Laettner, a career 48 percent shooter, is hitting 59 percent. Udonis Haslem, who shot 46 percent his rooke year on 447 shot attempts, is up to 54 percent this rooke saon in 517 attempts.

cent this season in 517 attempts.

Does any player make his teammates better at such a significant

"I don't think so," Jones said. "I think that Tim Duncan is a close second, and Kevin Garnett is a distant third

"Dwyane Wade is having a career year, I'm having a career year, Udonis is having a super year and the list goes on and on and on of the guys he has helped since he has been here."

Van Gundy said O'Neal's win-

ning percentage solidifies his case.

"If you go back to the games

that he's played in, he's close to winning 70 percent of the games that he's played in," Van Gundy said. "About the only other guy in this league that you can even talk about in terms of that is Duncan and his effect.

"Shaq even supersedes that."
O'Neal, though, says he is not interested in winning another regular-season MVP award.

"If you're the best player in the league, I think you should be able to win a championship a couple times," O'Neal said. "A lot of times, the guys that win MVP haven't won championships. I was lucky enough to win MVP and win championships a couple times, which makes it a little bit validated."

O'Neal does acknowledge Garnett as one of the best players in the league, but he said he couldn't imagine being in his prime and struggling to make the playoffs. The Timberwolves entered Thursday a half-game out of eighth place in the Western Conference. "Never, never," O'Neal

Neither could his teammates. "You never know," Shandon Anderson said. "But with him, I doubt it. I think he's guaranteed a playoff spot regardless."

# Miller widens World Cup lead

\_\_\_\_

LENZERHEIDE, Switzerland

Michael Walchhofer won the
World Cup downhill title Thursday after finishing fourth in the
season's final

Sports briefs

race, while American Bode Miller stretched his

lead for the

Miller gained 80 points to extend his lead over Austrian Benjamin Raich to 128 points in the overall standings. Miller and Raich will compete in the remaining three races: super giant slalom, giant slalom and slalom. Miller will clinch the title in Friday's

super-G if he wins the race and

Raich finishes out of the top 15.

Norway's Lasse Kjus won Thursday's race in 1 minute 24.09 seconds for his first World Cup downhill victory in over a year. Miller, who needed to win to have any chance to take the downhill season title, was 0.14 behind and finished 63 points behind Walchhofer. Fritz Strobl of Austria was third in 1:24.27.

#### Goetschl wins downhill title

LENZERHEIDE, Switzerland
— Renate Goetschl of Austria
won the final race of the season to
clinch the women's World Cup
downhill title Thursday, capturing the trophy for the fourth time
in her career.

Goetschl entered the race with a 32-point lead over Germany's Hilde Gerg, who finished third in Thursday's race and 72 points behind Goetschl.

American Lindsey Kildow had a remote chance to win the downhill title but crashed Thursday.

American Julia Mancuso, a double bronze medalist in the world championships, tied for fourth with Janica Kostelic of Croatia. Ania Paerson's 63-point lead

over Kostelic in the overall standings was cut to 45 with three races remaining — a super giant slalom, giant slalom and slalom.

#### Els trails by seven in Qatar DOHA, Oatar — Pierre Fulke

of Sweden shot 6-under 66 Thursday to take a one-stroke lead after the first round of the Qatar Masters, while Ernie Els, the only player ranked in the top 50 in the field, struggled to a 73.

#### Top panelist that investigated CU said commission was jilted

PUEBLO, Colo. — A leader of an independent commission that investigated the Colorado football recruiting scandal said the panel was "stabbed in the back" and that football coach Gary Barnett should be fired.

Joyce Lawrence, a former state legislator who was co-chairwoman of the panel, told The Pueblo Chieftain on Tuesday that Bannett and other athletic department officials never revealed the existence of a "slush fund" mentioned in a report by a grand jury that conducted a separate probe.

"We've been stabbed in the back. They knew what we wanted, but they didn't reveal that to us or to [university president Eliz-



#### Austria's Michael Walchhofer won the World Cup downhill title.

abeth Hoffman] at the time," Lawrence said.

"Yes, Coach Barnett needs to be replaced," she added. "The football and athletic staff knew the [independent commission] wanted to know about all the money that was going into the program and they never told us about those cash boxes."

Both the independent commission and the grand jury investigated the football program last year and concluded that some players had arranged sex, drugs and alcohol for visiting athletes who were being recruited for the team. The commission, which was an-

pointing by the university's governing Board of Regents, issued a report in May criticizing Hoffman and others for lax oversight but did not call for anyone to be fired. On Monday, Hoffman announced she was stepping down effective June 30 or when a successor is chosen.

#### Carruth's lawyers appeal to overturn conviction

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Former Carolina Panthers wide receiver Rae Carruth returned to court Thursday in his latest attempt to overturn a 2001 conviction in the slaving of his pregnant girlfriend.

The appeal in Mecklenburg Superior Court challenges the admission of key prosecution evidence during Carruth's trial in late 2000: a 911 call from girlfriend Cherica Adams following the shooting and what the 24-year-old victim told a police officer at the scene and hospital.

The defense claims Adams' statements are hearsay and their introduction into evidence during the murder trial violated Car-

ruth's constitutional right to confront his accuser

Carruth, a first-round draft pick of the Panthers out of Colorado, is serving a sentence of at least 18 years and 11 months.

Adams was eight months pregnant with Carruth's baby when she was gunned down in a drive-by shooting on Nov. 16, 1999, in south Charlotte. Doctors saved her son, Chancellor, in an emergency Caesarean. But Adams, shot four times, died a month later. Born prematurely and in distress, Chancellor has cerebral palsy.

#### R.I. legislators take up high-priced autographs PROVIDENCE. R.I. — After

the Boston Red Sox won their first World Series since 1918, some fans were willing to pay hundreds of dollars for memorabilia from the team. Like other pro athletes before

them, Red Sox players cashed in on their triumph by appearing at large-scale autograph signing events to meet fans and sell their signatures for upward of \$100.

A Senate committee on Thursday takes up legislation that would likely put a stop to such events in Rhode Island.

#### Armstrong drops out of Paris-Nice race

CRAPONNE-SUR-ARZON, France — Six-time Tour de France champion Lance Armstrong dropped out of the Paris-Nice race after the third stage with a sore throat.

Armstrong finished 99th in the stage Wednesday and said he wasn't feeling well.

#### Sorlie retains Iditarod lead

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Norwegian Robert Sorlie held the lead in the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, followed by two mushers who trailed him in his 2003 victory: Ramy Brooks and Jeff King.

Sorlie was first out of the Ophir checkpoint, leaving at 9:25 a.m. for the 90-mile run to the next checkpoint at the long-abandoned mining town of Iditarod.

Next out of Ophir on Wednesday was Brooks, who followed Sorlie at 10:31 a.m., and King, a three-time winner who departed the checkpoint at 11:09 a.m.



A

Musher Paul Gebhardt leaves the checkpoint at Takotna, Alaska, during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race on Wednesday. The next checkpoint is the long-abandoned mining town of Iditarod, the race's halfway mark.

# **SPORTS**

Racing Stripes: Nextel Cup veteran Wallace has mixed feelings about last season behind the wheel full-time. Page 33



# **Army star Davis dead at 80**

# RB won Heisman in '46, helped Cadets win three national titles

BY JEREMIAH MARQUEZ
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Glenn Davis, who won the Heisman Trophy in 1946 and helped lead Army to three national championships, died Wednesday. He was

Davis died of complications from prostate cancer at his home in La Quinta, located about 110 miles east of Los Angeles, said his son, Ralph Davis.

Glenn Davis will be buried at West Point, near his former coach, Col. Earl "Red" Blaik, according to his son.

Davis starred as a halfback for Army when it won national titles in 1944 and 1945. The Cadets and Notre Dame played to a scoreless tie in 1946, and split the national championship.

Davis teamed with fullback Felix "Doc" Blanchard, the 1945 Heisman winner, as one of the most heralded backfields in the history of college football. He was known as "Mr. Outside" to Blanchard's "Mr. Inside."

Davis scored 59 touchdowns and gained 4,129 yards in rushing and receiving in his college ca-

He still holds NCAA records for most yards gained per play in one season, averaging 11.5 yards per carry in 1945; 8.3 career yards per carry; and he and Blanchard share the record for most touchdowns (97) and points (585) socred by teammates in a career.

In 1946, Davis won the Heisman and was voted male athlete of the year by The Associated Press. Davis has the best voting record of any Heisman candidate, finishing second in 1944 and 1945 before winning the award.

"He was one of the best," said former Army guard Joe Steffy, who played with Davis in 1945 and 1946.

"He left an impression. The

first time I met him, I was in awe. What he meant to the military academy and the game of college football needs no explanation."

In 1944, after a famous season-ending win over Navy, Gen. Douglas MacArthur even took time out from his war duties to send this wire: "The greatest of all Army teams ... We have stopped the war to celebrate your magnificent success. Mac-Arthur."

A telephone call to Blanchard's home near San Antonio, Texas, was answered by his granddaughter, who said he had already gone to bed. Blanchard won the Heisman in 1945.

After serving his military obligation, Davis joined the Los Angeles Rams, playing on the team that won the 1951 NFL championship before a knee injury cut his career short in 1952.

Renowned for his lightning speed, Davis was coming off a record-breaking career at Bonita High School in LaVerne, Calif, where he scored an amazing 256 points during his senior year, when he was persuaded to play for Army in 1943.

The 5-9, 170-pounder became an instant star. Davis scored his first Army touchdown on a 4-yard run in a 27-0 season-opening win over Villanova, threw a touchdown pass in a 42-0 win over Coldown pass in a 42-0 win over Cold

"He was the fastest man in football," Steffy said. "He was a great athlete, believe me."

Davis and Blanchard were national sports heroes, appearing on the cover of Time magazine in November 1945. Despite the accolades, Davis over the years showed a certain modesty about his prowess.

SEE DAVIS ON PAGE 35



Army's Glenn Davis carries the ball in this Nov. 28, 1944 file photo in New York. Davis, who won the Heisman Trophy in 1946 and heliped lead Army to a 27-0-1 record and three national championships from 1944 to 1946, died Wednesday of complications from prostate cancer at his home in La Quintia, Calif. He was 80.

Montana,
Fairleigh Dickinson
win conferences,
automatic bids
to NCAA
tournament

Page 37



Congressman says all pro leagues in U.S. should work toward common drug-testing policy

Dawa 24



With Duncan,
Ginobili on bench,
Spurs can't
continue recent
domination
against Suns

Page 38

West Virginia knocks off BC in Big East tourney Page 36

